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THE TIMES

Easter parade of things to do, page 10

President Reagan on the road to recovery

President Reagan is said to be making a remarkable recovery after Monday's operation to remove from his chest the bullet fired by a would-be assassin. His press secretary, hit in the head by another bullet, is in a serious condition but the two other men wounded in the Washington attack are out of danger. The President's doctor and other official spokesmen emphasized that he is not seriously incapacitated and is in control of his Administration.

Alert, in good spirits and in control

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, March 31

President Reagan, who was shot and wounded by a would-be assassin yesterday, is recovering well in a Washington hospital. His doctor reported that the President passed an excellent night and was well on the road to recovery.

He said that Mr Reagan would remain in hospital for about two weeks, and would take two and a half to three months before being completely recovered "and riding horses again".

For a man of 70, who was seriously wounded, Mr Reagan is making a remarkable recovery, according to Dr Dennis O'Leary.

Three other men were wounded with Mr Reagan, and the White House said that the most seriously injured of them, Mr James Brady, the President's Press Secretary, "is going to live" and the chances were good that he would not be seriously impaired by the bullet which pierced his brain.

Doctors called Mr Brady's progress extraordinary but were still uncertain about prospects for a complete recovery.

The doctor and other official spokesmen are making a concerted effort to show that the Government of the United States goes on, that Mr Reagan is not seriously incapacitated, that he is alert, in good spirits, and in control of his Administration.

He signed an important farm bill this morning and photocopies of the document were distributed to the press. Some reporters thought his signature rather shaky.

The spokesman recounted various jokes that the President has made since reaching the hospital.

The President was told, at about noon, of his Press Secretary's condition by his Chief of Staff, Mr James Baker.

"His reaction was, 'Damn, oh damn', and his eyes welled up with tears", Mr Baker said.

Dr O'Leary had said earlier that Mr Reagan had not been told about Mr Brady's condition for fear of upsetting him, and avoided answering the obvious follow-up question, whether the fact that President Reagan was judged unready to hear such unpleasant news did not imply that he was not ready to direct the Government.

The circumstances of the assassination attempt are now being examined in every detail by the Secret Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Washington police and the press.

John Hinckley, flanked by two policemen, is driven away from the court in Washington after being charged.

Mr Reagan had addressed a convention of trade unionists in the Washington Hilton Hotel and was leaving the building and heading for his car at 2.30 pm when he was shot. As usual, there were plenty of policemen and Secret Service agents around.

The gunman was standing among a small group of people near the hotel door, next to an area where the press had set up camp. He had no business to be there and a crucial part of the investigation will be to determine whether he could have been prevented from walking up to the press party and standing there.

There were the usual television cameras, and one cameraman remembered afterwards that the gunman seemed edgy and hostile.

Mr Reagan walked the 30ft or so to his car, waving first to his right, then to his left. The shots were fired just as he reached the car.

He was half turned to his left, facing the gunman, and the bullet that hit him went under his armpit, was deflected by a rib, and lodged three inches inside his lung. One eye-witness said that the smile "was just wiped off the President's face".

It was a .22 bullet and the doctors now say that the President's life was never in any danger. The secret servicemen responded immediately. The one directly behind the President seized him and hurled him bodily into the car. Two further bullets struck the car before it drove off.

Mr Reagan was driven immediately to George Washington University Hospital, about a mile away. The White House press office at first announced that the President was unhurt and was going to hospital to see the injured men.

He walked into the building, helped by his assistants, holding his right hand against his left side. The doctor said this morning that the President discovered for sure that he was wounded only when he reached the emergency room. The doctor remarked that in such circumstances patients have a strong rush of adrenalin and often misjudge their own condition.

Meanwhile, in a scene of intense confusion outside the hotel, the three wounded men were on the ground and police and agents had piled on top of the gunman to disarm him.

There was much shouting and gesticulating with guns, terror, noise and photographers and cameramen surging around, but none of the police fired a gun. If not cool, they were at least competent and did everything that had to be done quickly and efficiently.

The gunman was handcuffed and hustled away and the wounded men were loaded into ambulances and driven off. Reporters who were there, and everyone who has studied the videotapes of the incident conclude that the assassination attempt could not have been prevented.

Unless the President travels in an armoured car, never appearing in public, a maniac with a gun will get within range.

Mr James Brady was today reported to be in very serious but "improving" condition. The bullet which passed through his skull caused severe brain damage.

His surgeon said early today that he was "somewhat responsive" although it was still too early to make a complete prognosis.

The condition of Mr Timothy McCarthy the Secret Service agent who was the most seriously wounded victim after Mr Brady, was today described to be "stable and good".

He was shot in the chest as he was protecting the President. The bullet passed through his right lung, doing little damage, and lacerated his liver.

Mr Thomas Delahanty, a policeman, was today listed in serious condition with a neck wound and a bullet lodged near his spinal cord. The prognosis for his recovery is described as "good".

When the shooting occurred, Vice-President Bush was at a political meeting in Houston, Texas. He was immediately summoned back to Washington.

Shortly afterwards he appeared on television to announce, "I can reassure this nation and a watching world that this Government is functioning fully and effectively".

In the interval, there was doubt over the control of the Government. Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, arrived in the White House soon after the shooting and, in his own words, took control. He appeared in the press room to announce this, and to say that the armed forces had not been put on the alert.

He claimed that his authority derived from his office, which is third in order of seniority in the executive. However, he also seemed to believe that he is second in order of succession to the Presidency, after the Vice-President; in fact he comes behind the Speaker of the House of Representatives (now Mr Thomas O'Neill) and the President pro tempore of the Senate, Senator Strom Thurmond.

The question became moot with Mr Bush's arrival and the news from the hospital that Mr Reagan would not be incapacitated for long.

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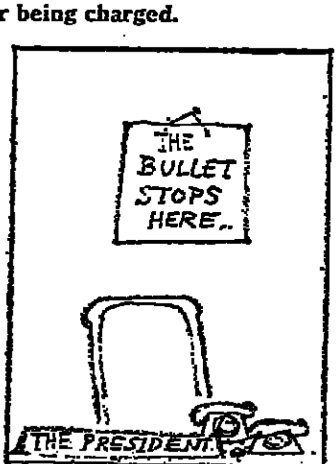
United States self-examination, and Diary, page 14
Leading article, page 15



Gunman in cell under sedation

From David Cross
Washington, March 31

John Hinckley, aged 25, the son of wealthy Republican parents who is accused of trying to kill President Reagan, was today reported to be under sedation in prison.

A Department of Justice spokesman said that Mr Hinckley was taken to the Quantico Marine Corps base, about 30 miles south-west of Washington, early today after a brief preliminary court hearing in Washington late last night. He was segregated from other prisoners and occupied a 6ft by 10ft cell with a bed and toilet.

On the recommendation of two doctors Mr Hinckley was being sedated with valium.

Mr Hinckley was charged at the court hearing with the attempted assault on a federal agent with a pistol.

Mr Hinckley, who was dressed in a navy-blue shirt and trousers, answered: "Yes, sir" when asked whether he understood the charges being made against him. The charges were read by Mr Arthur Burnett, a United States magistrate, who turned down a request for bail and fixed a formal arraignment hearing for Thursday.

During the 45-minute hearing, the defendant sat with his head propped in his hands and showed no sign of emotion. Two lawyers, appointed by the court to handle his defence, tried unsuccessfully to have reporters banned from the court during the hearing. One said later that they wanted to avoid publicity if possible.

Mr William Webster, the director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said during the hearing that Mr Hinckley was still in his agency's custody and would be held in a safe place until he could be examined by a psychiatrist.

A policeman, who saw Mr Hinckley arrive at police headquarters in Washington soon after the shooting yesterday, said that he looked dazed, "like he didn't know what was happening to him". When he came out of the police building later, however, he "looked really scared, like he knew".

King delays resignation of Belgian Government

From Peter Norman
Brussels, March 31

Mr Wilfried Martens, the Belgian Prime Minister, today offered the resignation of his coalition Government of French- and Flemish-speaking Christian and Socialist parties to King Baudouin.

The move came after a brief meeting of the Cabinet this morning at which the Christian Democrat Prime Minister failed to win the support of his Socialist coalition partners for radical measures to help resolve Belgium's economic crisis.

Later in the afternoon the King met leaders of all Belgian political parties and the heads of employers and trade union organizations. He did not accept his Prime Minister's resignation immediately, but instead said he would start consultations tomorrow in an attempt to resolve the crisis.

Mr Martens had proposed that the system of automatically linking incomes to the rise in the cost of living should be suspended until the end of the year and then reformed. This radical break with previous policies was intended to bolster the Belgian franc after it had come under heavy pressure on currency markets to devalue in the European Monetary System at the end of last week and yesterday.

The Belgian National Bank today announced an increase in the bank rate to 16 per cent from 13 per cent in an attempt to prevent a further run on the franc.

This latest political crisis broke on Sunday night. Mr Martens called a special session of the Cabinet to announce his plans to suspend the system of indexation and his intention of taking petrol, tobacco and drink out of the basket of products that determine the cost of living index from the beginning of next year.

This latter move was intended to ensure that the automatic rises in wages, salaries, rent and pensions that follow increases in prices would be lower than in the past. Despite meeting until 4 am on Monday, the Prime Minister failed to win Socialist support for his schemes.

What went wrong, page 19

Army seizes power in Thailand

Bangkok, Wednesday morning.—The Thai Armed Forces staged a coup early today against the Government of General Prem Tinsulanonda, the official Radio Thailand said.

The radio said the coup was staged by General Sant Chipatima, the deputy Commander-in-chief of the Army. It said the takeover was backed by the three Armed Services and the police.

General Prem, who took office just over a year ago, had resigned as Prime Minister and Army Commander-in-Chief, the radio said. The announcement told the public to stay calm.

The radio said General Sant had taken over "because of the deteriorating situation. Several political parties are undermining the stability of the Government with an intention of taking over the country and changing it into a dictatorial state".

The announcement said General Sant was heading a revolutionary committee.

The Thai constitution was immediately abolished and the Cabinet and Parliament dissolved by a revolutionary committee, which took over at 2 am, according to the announcement, which was broadcast at 5 am.—AP.

Libel jury questions tax-free charity status of Moonies

By Frances Gibb

A High Court jury yesterday called for an investigation into the charitable status of the Moonies, or Unification Church, after finding that a newspaper article which claimed the cult broke up families and brainwashed converts was not libellous.

In a rider to their unanimous verdict in favour of Associated Newspapers, brought in after 3½ hours at the end of the longest libel trial in history, they called on the Inland Revenue Department to investigate the tax-free status of the sect "on the grounds that it is a political organization".

The jury had also wanted to include a reference to another organization, but the judge, Mr Justice Comyn, instructed it to be deleted.

In a second rider the jury of five women and six men also added: "Whatever the effect of our verdict we wanted to express our deep concern for the young idealistic members of it (the Unification Church)".

The verdict, delivered on the hundredth working day of the case, brought to an end an action for libel which has taken more than six months and involved 117 witnesses.

It was brought by Mr Dennis Orme, aged 42, spiritual leader of the Unification Church in Britain, over an article in the *Daily Mail* published in May, 1978. Afterwards Mr Orme said the finding did not mean the end of the Unification Church in Britain. He dismissed the riders as "inconsequential" and said he would definitely consider an appeal. "I do not think it is much of a setback; you win some, you lose some", he said.

Mr David English, editor of the *Daily Mail*, said the verdict was a great vindication of thorough investigative journalism. The decision to fight the case which was expected to be long, hard and costly, was a difficult one but it was worth every penny.

"We set out to draw attention to the Unification Church and expose them and we have succeeded not only with the story but in this titanic battle as well."

He said he hoped the investigation called for by the jury would be raised by MPs in the House of Commons. "We have put the Moonies under pressure and drawn attention to their action. We have shown what people have gone through; all the horrific tragic and sad family distress that they have caused and I predict they will now go into decline."

The Charity Commissioners said they would consider the ruling and its implications. The commissioners considered any complaints about its charities and occasionally undertook investigations which in rare cases led to their removal from the register, a spokesman said.

The Inland Revenue said it could not discuss individual cases. As a general principle, however, if the body was a charity in law and claimed tax exemption, the way it spent its money and its charitable status were considered when it applied for the exemption annually.

Costs in the action, estimated at between £500,000 and £750,000, are to be borne by the Unification Church members who have already raised £215,000 deposited into court by Mr Orme as a security. That will be set against Associated Newspapers' costs after tax. Mr Orme said yesterday he would honour any extra costs not covered by that sum.

Later at the church's headquarters in Lancaster Gate, London, Mr Orme said he did not regret the action. On the question of a possible investigation by the Inland Revenue or Charity Commissioners, he said that the same charge of being political had been laid against the church in the United States, but that it had still retained its tax-free status.

The jury had probably reached its view that the church was political on the basis of evidence about the church in other parts of the world, he said. None of it applied in Britain.

There was no evidence during the trial of any political activity by the Unification Church in Britain.

Mr Orme also dismissed the *Daily Mail's* claims about brainwashing converts and breaking up families.

The members of the sect get their name of Moonies from Sun Myung Moon, the founder of the Unification Church.

Cult's "love-bomb", page 3

Living standards rise to record level

By Frances Williams

Britons never had it so good last year, government figures show. Pay rises well above the rate of inflation for those in work pushed personal living standards to record levels, outweighing the effects of mounting unemployment and lower pay settlements later in the year.

This was in marked contrast to the fall in national output over the period and was achieved only at the expense of company profitability and investment.

Total personal incomes of which wages and salaries make up nearly 60 per cent, rose 18 per cent in 1980 from 1979, but the increase was largely eroded by inflation.

Living standards, measured by real personal disposable incomes—that is, after tax and after adjusting for rising prices—went up by just 2 per cent. This follows jumps of over 6 per cent between 1978 and 1979 and over 8 per cent the year before.

By the end of last year, however, the recession was beginning to bite. Living standards this year are widely expected to fall quite sharply.

A sharp upward blip in real personal disposable incomes in the last quarter of 1979 reflected large tax rebates.

Profits of industrial and commercial companies, after deducting stock appreciation, went up by 7 per cent in money terms between 1979 and 1980 but, excluding North Sea oil profits, fell by 5 per cent.

'olish union :alls off trike move

The Solidarity trade union federation in Poland last night agreed to the terms negotiated by Mr Lech Walesa, its leader, for the calling off of the general strike it had threatened this week. The decision came at the end of a long and at times contentious meeting in Gdansk. Meanwhile, the two deputy governors of Bydgoszcz, the province where Solidarity members were last week beaten up by police, had their resignations accepted Page 6

enkins offer o Liberals

Mr Roy Jenkins, a joint-leader of the Social Democrats, has offered the Liberals "a partnership of principle". Informed talks on achieving an inter-party agreement have begun between the two parties' leaders Page 2

Vriter dies

The writer Enid Bagnold (Lady Jones) died in London yesterday, aged 91. She gained international fame with the best-seller *National Velvet*. She married Sir Roderick Jones, former head of Reuters' news agency, in 1920 Page 16

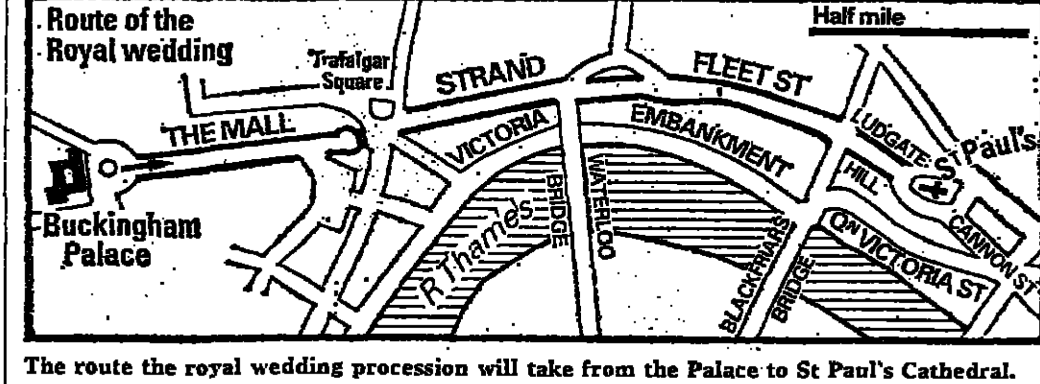
Tear gas halts farm protest

Thousands of angry farmers, mainly from France and Italy, who were besieging the headquarters of the EEC's Council of Ministers in Brussels in support of their demands for higher Community farm prices were dispersed by riot police using tear gas. Earlier, Mr Gerrit Braks, the Dutch chairman of the council, said that the ministerial talks on farm prices might be called off if the violence continued Page 6

Murray rise: The annual pay of the general secretary of the TUC is to rise by £3,700 to about £22,300 2

London University: Professor Randolph Quirk has been offered the post of vice-chancellor succeeding Lord Annan 4

Israel: Mr Begin's coalition shows signs of regaining popularity 8



The route the royal wedding procession will take from the Palace to St Paul's Cathedral.

Prince of Wales will have his brothers as 'best men' at the royal wedding

By John Witherow

The Prince of Wales's two brothers, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward, will act as his "supporters", or best men at the wedding with Lady Diana Spencer on July 29.

Buckingham Palace, announcing the first details of the pageantry that will accompany the wedding at St Paul's Cathedral, said this followed the practice at previous royal weddings.

Prince Andrew, aged 21, who is midshipman in the Royal Navy, will hand over the wedding ring, and Prince Edward, aged 17, will stand beside the royal couple.

It was announced last night that the wedding ring will be made from a newly struck vein of gold from the Welsh mountains, by Alun Morgan Thomas, a firm of goldsmiths in Powys.

No details have yet been announced concerning Lady Diana's bridesmaids, but the palace said she would be given away by her father, Lord Spencer, who will travel with her to St Paul's.

The Queen and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother each had eight bridesmaids at their weddings. Princess Anne, however, had only Prince Edward and Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones.

There will be four carriage processions following a route from Buckingham Palace along the Mall, through Trafalgar Square, along the Strand, Fleet Street and up Ludgate Hill to St Paul's.

Flags will be flown in the Mall and from Admiralty Arch and members of all three Services will line the route and be represented on the cathedral steps.

At 11 am the processions will arrive for the wedding, which is expected to last about an hour. They will return by the same route.

The first procession will be for members of the Royal Family and will be accompanied by a captain's escort of the Household Cavalry. The Queen will follow with a sovereign's escort of the Household Cavalry, then the Prince of Wales, dressed in full naval uniform, will arrive with a Prince of Wales' escort of the Household Cavalry.

The fourth procession will be for Lady Diana and will leave either from Buckingham Palace or Clarence House, accompanied by a mounted police escort.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, will officiate at the service, assisted by the Dean of St Paul's, the Very Rev Alan Webster.

Militancy rising among Inland Revenue officers

By Paul Routledge. Labour Editor

The Civil Service was hit yesterday by new walkouts at Inland Revenue tax collection offices and naval fuel depots responsible for servicing Nato vessels as the campaign of selective pay strikes intensified.

For the first time since it was established by the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Selwyn Lloyd, in 1962, the work of the National Economic Development Council ("Neddy"), which brings together government, employers and unions, will be disrupted by industrial action today.

After intensive behind-the-scenes pressure, TUC staff and trade union leaders have decided that they will not cross picket lines outside the Millbank Tower offices where the NEDC meets, and the talks will be confined to ministers, industrialists and four independent members. Journalists are being asked to "black" the press briefings afterwards.

Of more immediate concern to the Treasury than discussions on NEDC agenda items, such as energy pricing and developments in the labour market, is the rising militancy in the Inland Revenue.

Forty officers were called out on indefinite strike in Cardiff, and 20 in London (North) yesterday. Others are likely to follow as senior members of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation refuse to do work normally handled at the strike-bound computer centres at Shipley and Cumbernauld.

Mr Tony Christopher, general secretary of the IRSF, said last night: "We are very encouraged by this response, not just from junior grades but also from quite senior management officers. But it is not unexpected. To ask one taxation officer to suspend another collection member is rather like asking a member of the Brigade of Guards to arrest the Queen."

He was referring to the action of six of the 15 regional principal collection officers who have been called out on strike for refusing to serve suspension orders on their juniors for refusing to carry out the work normally done by those already on strike.

The Council of the Civil Service Union said that more than 10,000 Inland Revenue and other Civil Service staff walked out for half-day stoppages in Liverpool, Manchester, Leicester and Cardiff, in protest at the growing list of suspensions.

The Customs and Excise Department gave warning last night that 29 Manchester-based clerical and executive staff responsible for the collection of betting revenue from off-course bookmakers in England and Wales would be suspended from 3 pm today "if they continue to refuse to carry out their normal duties". If past practice is followed, they will be called out on strike.

In the Ministry of Defence area, where things have been relatively quiet, 24 technicians at the Nato refuelling bases of Old Kilpatrick, Campbeltown, Loch Ewe, Loch Striven, Rosyth, Invergordon and Faslane, Scotland, were brought out on indefinite strike. A further 30 computer staff at the Customs and Excise computer in Southend were brought into the stoppage there.

Today is the date on which new salaries should take effect for 530,000 white-collar civil servants, and about 150 rallies will be held in London and provincial centres. Many half-day strikes are also expected.

The Confederation of British Industry said last night that it regretted the unions' decision not to cross the Civil Service picket lines to attend tomorrow's NEDC meeting.

The CBI believed it was vitally important to resolve the discrepancy between what manufacturers on the Continent and what manufacturers in Britain paid for bulk energy supplies.

TUC chief to get 19.5% pay rise

By Our Labour Editor

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, is to have a salary increase three times that laid down by the Government for its employees. It will take his annual earnings to about £22,300.

In a discreetly-implemented package of salary increases for about 100 staff at Congress House, the London headquarters of the trade union movement, yearly wages will rise by about 19½ per cent from today.

Mr Murray's pay rises by £3,700 a year from £18,600, in order to retain his differential over TUC heads of department covering international, economic, organizational and press affairs. They are now expected to get about £16,000 a year from April 1.

These increases come at a time of falling membership among the TUC's 120 affiliated unions and a cash crisis developing from a £300,000 reduction in subscription revenue this year. Membership of the TUC is expected to fall by at least 500,000 because of the economic recession that has affected individual unions.

TUC leaders are bracing themselves for a further drop in union membership in 1982 as the recession bites deeper and their own forecasts of more than three million jobless become a reality.

But Congress House staff insist that while the overall level of employment in the United Kingdom is falling, the proportion of workpeople organized in trade unions is still rising. Workers are still turning to unions as a form of defence.

Congress House staff yesterday declined to comment on the salary increases, which come at the end of a comparability exercise intended to lift TUC salaries up to those paid for similar jobs in the Civil Service and elsewhere. The comparability elements now said to be "spent".

Photograph by Brian Harris

Dr Marino Chiavelli and his £820,000 Renoir: "I think this is the best."

£820,000 Renoir buyer breaks cover

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

"I already have four Renoirs, but I think this is the best" Dr Marino Chiavelli said modestly as he gazed on the delicious young bathing girl for which he paid the world record auction price of £820,000 at Christie's on Monday night.

Dr Chiavelli has been mystifying the art world for some weeks with his lavish purchases which, hitherto, have been cloaked in secrecy. Yesterday he broke cover and talked about the mansions in London and Johannesburg that he is busy filling with treasures.

In Johannesburg he has a 48-room Victorian villa and surrounding park called Summerplace. "It is one of the finest houses in South Africa", he points out, losing a little of his modesty. When Sotheby's offered the collection of the late E. J. A. Loerincz for sale in Johannesburg on March 10 he bought half the auction, spending £137,143 on 51 lots. His ambition is to furnish the house mainly in period with its construction, that is with nineteenth-century treasures.

In London he has bought a fine eighteenth-century mansion, Selwood House in Gloucester Square. It has a mere 18 rooms, but, he adds, there are also three mews houses for his dependants.

The London home is to be furnished with the best French eighteenth-century furniture of the Louis XV and Louis XVI periods. At Christie's sale of French furniture on March 26 he spent £168,450 on 25 lots of fine furniture and works of art.

Pictures, of course, come more expensive. At Christie's on Monday night his total outlay was £1,364,000, for which he secured seven paintings. (None of these auction figures include the 10 per cent buyers' premium that he will also have to pay.) The Renoir was his most expensive purchase but he also bought five works by Dali from the Edward James collection.

Those are intended for his London home. "With French eighteenth-century furniture, I think you need a few Surrealists", he commented. That, of course, was also Mr James's opinion; his Wimpole Street home for which the paintings were commissioned was filled with French furniture.

Today Dr Chiavelli has his eyes on two more Renoirs coming up for sale at Sotheby's, and he would not be averse to adding a particularly fine Monet. "But who knows", he shrugs.

He leaves London tonight. "I have to go to Switzerland, the United States and South Africa". A gesture with his left hand allows a large diamond on his small finger to glitter enticingly.

But Renoir is his chief love. "His work, it is *la pennellata della primavera* (the "brushstroke of spring"), would you not agree?", he says with a smile.

The money that allows him to enjoy such springtime indulgences is based in the construction and crude oil businesses. "I do not like to talk about my businesses", he *says*, while admitting to owning around the world some 10 or 12 companies. No, he would not wish to name them. "I am a very private man", he says.

He comes originally from Modena in north Italy where he remains the chairman of Forrestal Import-Export, a company dealing mainly in petroleum. "But I have finished with my interests in Italy", he says, "I do not wish to go back there." The base of his business operations is now South Africa.

No rules bent for new bishop, Dr Runcie says

By Clifford Longley
Religious affairs correspondent

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, indicated yesterday that there had been no departure from agreed procedure in the nomination of Dr Graham Leonard to be Bishop of London.

He issued a statement through his press officer saying: "Questions have been raised about the appointment of the new Bishop of London. The Archbishop of Canterbury wishes it to be known that the procedures agreed between church and state since 1976 were followed in every detail on this occasion".

His comment follows the disclosure yesterday that Dr Leonard was not the first choice put to the Prime Minister, and that a considerable struggle developed at the highest levels of church and state before the Queen endorsed the selection of Dr Leonard.

Dr Runcie's statement was followed by a statement from the Prime Minister's office, saying that the 1976 procedures had been meticulously followed at all stages, and "any suggestion to the contrary is wholly without foundation".

The procedure was laid down in a parliamentary answer given by Mr James Callaghan, then Prime Minister, in June, 1976, after long negotiations with Church of England leaders. It stated that prime ministers would retain an element of discretion in the advice they gave to the Crown, and would not be obliged to endorse the first choice put forward by the Crown Appointments Commission.

It is now clear that Dr Leonard was one of the two names offered by the Crown Appointments Commission, with the Bishop of Durham, Dr John Habgood. *The commission* expressed its preference for Dr Habgood and expected, as in the past, that the Prime Minister would forward the preferred name to the Queen. Word reached Dr Leonard's supporters, and they embarked on a campaign of lobbying on his behalf.

They were helped by the fact that Dr Habgood's name had not received two-thirds' majority support in the commission, which is normally required.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, chairman of the commission, was responsible for communicating its advice to the Prime Minister, and felt justified in showing which way the preference lay.

Dr Leonard's inclusion on the list of two names meant, however, that the Prime Minister was within the terms of the 1976 agreement in selecting him instead of Dr Habgood. Critics of the Prime Minister's decision were maintaining yesterday that she should not have gone against the majority decision of the Crown Appointments Commission, particularly as she was said to have been influenced by lobbying.

Those defending Dr Leonard's appointment pointed out that the commission's advice was against the weight of opinion in the diocese of London. The Vacancy in See Committee, which is responsible for identifying and expressing that opinion, had canvassed all the parishes in the diocese and found 70 per cent in favour of Dr Leonard.

Mr Robert Edwards, vice-chairman of the vacancy in see committee of the London diocese, said he thought Dr Runcie had been personally in favour of Dr Habgood because they were old friends.

Dr Leonard's name has yet to go before the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's for election. Informed opinion yesterday was that there would be a majority in his favour.

Diary, page

Labour MPs leap to aid of 'under-paid' civil servants

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

There was a time not so many months ago, or to be more precise, any time before the last general election, when red-blooded militants in the Labour Party would have gladly suffered eternal torment on the rack rather than show any brotherly feelings towards a civil servant.

Nowadays, as recent encounters with the Prime Minister in the Commons have shown, civil servants are well on their way to that great TUC valhalla in the sky, there to be deified alongside the miners, dockers, steelworkers and other horny-handed sons of the soil.

Any casual observer of the political scene knows full well that the switch from government to opposition can have a traumatic effect on an MP's attitude on a whole range of issues. But it is still a little unnerving to witness such stalwart scourges of the establishment as Mr Dennis Skinner, Mr Robert Cryer or Mr Dennis Canavan, Labour MPs respectively for Bolsover, Keighley and Stirlingshire West, leaping eagerly to the defence of their bowler-hatted and pin-striped comrades in the civil service unions.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher had scarcely reached the dispatch box yesterday when once again it seemed that the one and central policy of the Labour Party was to preserve intact every last member of the Civil Service, their pens immortalized in wax and their memorandums forever mounting.

Mr Skinner, of course, was the first to leap into action with a tirade so lengthy and so involved that it brought down upon him the wrath of Mr George Thomas, the Speaker.

Mr Skinner, no stranger to the wrath of Speakers, was particularly incensed by the Prime Minister's regret that trade union leaders would not be represented at today's meeting of the National Economic Development Council because of a Civil Service picket line. She told the House that the meeting would go ahead without TUC leaders and that there were important matters on the agenda.

Mr Skinner, who is a miners' MP, rounded on the Prime Minister with as much vigour as if she had announced the closure tomorrow of every coalmine in the country. Did Mrs Thatcher realize, he thundered, that half the civil servants got less than the average wage and that many were below the poverty wage line.

All that the Civil Service was asking for was that this tawdry, rotten Government should carry out its mandate to allow free, collective wage bargaining. Mr Skinner was clearly prepared to carry on in this vein for some considerable time and Labour MPs, carried away at the picture of down-at-heel and out-at-elbow public servants, undernourished and under-paid, were already drawing their handkerchiefs from their pockets.

But at that point the Speaker had had enough and told him sharply to bring his question to an end. Mr Skinner eventually sat down but continued to mutter loudly as Mrs Thatcher attempted to reply.

Mrs Thatcher, who does not normally have difficulty in making herself heard, finally got it over to the House that in the past two years civil servants had received pay increases totalling 50 per cent. They were now being offered 7 per cent more and the Prime Minister considered that those were levels of pay that many in the private sector would like to have received.

Not the sort of increases that would leave the civil servants on the breadline.

Parliamentary report, page 9

NUJ votes for print union merger talks

From Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter, Norwich

The prospect of a merger between the National Graphical Association and the National Union of Journalists was brought closer last night when the journalists' annual conference approved formal talks between the two unions.

Delegates endorsed a resolution backing merger discussions with the print industry's main craft union with the aim of a detailed report to next year's conference followed by a ballot of the whole membership.

NUJ leaders, who held preliminary talks with the NGA in Newcastle last month, won backing for formal negotiations despite strong opposition to an eventual merger from broadcasting and Irish delegates.

A move to remit the clause formally endorsing the negotiations made by delegates who wanted fuller debate within the union before negotiations started was defeated by 155 votes to 136.

Mr Kenneth Ashton, general secretary of the NUJ, said that the union had worked hard to reach an agreement on new technology with the NGA. "I do not know how long we will be able to keep that agreement safe from attacks from employers without amalgamation", he told delegates.

But Mr Giles Smith, a London television delegate, said that a merger with the NGA would mean the end of the union in broadcasting, and the union's 3,000 broadcasting members would have to leave. "Make no mistake, they cannot and will not accept it".

Mr David Seymour, of the union's Central London branch, said that if the union was serious about a merger delegates had to consult members before going any further.

Journalists' strike: The NUJ yesterday called an official strike of its 120 members in the Heart of England newspaper group in protest at the company's closure of the *Camden Journal*, a north London weekly.

Dispute over custody of missing girl

From Our Correspondent
Exeter

Genette Tate, the schoolgirl who disappeared three years ago, was the centre of a custody dispute yesterday.

Her father, Mr John Tate, and stepmother, Mrs Violet Tate, went before a judge in chambers after Mr Tate was granted a decree nisi at Exeter County Court on the ground of Mr Tate's adultery. Both sought custody of the child.

Judge Paul Clarke ruled that it would be impractical to make a custody order while the girl was still missing, but he confirmed a ruling made in favour of Mr Tate at the time of his divorce from Genette's mother, Sheila, in 1975.

Mr Tate said afterwards: "Should she be found alive a fresh custody application would be made to the court by Violet, Sheila and Myself. But initially, if Genette were to be found today, I would have legal custody."

How work experience aids school studies

By Our Education Correspondent

First-hand experience of industry and commerce helps pupils' motivation and enables them to see more clearly the value of their school studies, according to a report by the Schools Inspectorate, published yesterday.

The report gives 12 examples of ways in which schools can prepare pupils for working life through work experience, visits and subject-related studies.

The pupils involved spoke of a number of skills and abilities that they felt had been strengthened as a result of their experiences, including ability to communicate through oral, written, numerical, and graphical means; to follow instructions; to work as a member of a team; to exercise patience and persistence; and to take responsibility.

Few of the schools concerned had achieved success without additional resources of time, manpower and money, the report says. However, a foreword emphasizes: "Nothing said (in the report) is to be construed as implying Government commitment to the provision of additional resources."

Schools and working life: some initiatives (Department of Education and Science, Stationery Office, £2.50).

MP calls for alcohol warnings on bottles

By a Staff Reporter

Safety warnings on bottles of drink, index-linking of the cost of alcohol and an end to the proliferation of retail outlets for alcoholic drinks were called for yesterday by Sir Bernard Braine, Conservative MP for Essex South-east and chairman of the *National Council* on Alcoholism.

One in seven young men in Britain drinks at a level which will damage his health, Sir Bernard said, and one in 17 of men in all age groups drink enough to face the same risk.

"A conservative estimate of the cost to the nation would be £1,000m", Sir Bernard said, speaking at the launch of an alcohol information week in Manchester.

In the past decade, alcohol consumption per head has risen by more than one-third. In the same period, drunkenness offences had risen by over 23 per cent, drink-driving offences by 28 per cent, deaths from cirrhosis of the liver by 22 per cent and admissions to hospital for alcoholism had risen by a half.

The pressure on health services was "intolerable".

The drink industry spent about £53m on advertising in 1979-80, while about £200,000 was spent on government health education.

World today like Dark Ages, Duke says

Crime, aggression and terrorism in the world today would be familiar to someone from the Dark Ages, the Duke of Edinburgh said in London yesterday.

He was opening the first International Conference on Human Value, at which the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, called on everyone present to pray for President Ronald Reagan and his family and aides.

The Duke, patron of the two-day conference, said: "If we could revive someone who had lived through Europe's Dark Ages, he would find the crime and the vandalism and the aggression and the terrorism and the drug addiction all too familiar.

"He would know that, just as in his day, they stemmed from the same motives of greed, envy, selfishness and hate."

The main difficulty for the conference was to match the "right emotions" in the hearts of many millions of people to modern needs. "Unless young people can be given a positive motive to behave with tolerance and consideration, academic education is a waste of time", he said.

"It is unfair and unreasonable to expect anyone to discover civilized behaviour by some process of trial and error. Instincts for love and compassion may develop without encouragement, but then greed, selfishness and aggression will have an equal chance to influence behaviour."

The Duke, arriving by car at Queen Elizabeth Hall, missed a demonstration by a dozen handicapped people outside the main pedestrian entrance. They held placards urging people attending the conference to "consult the real experts".

The group, calling themselves the Liberation Network of People with Disabilities, claimed that, although the conference was about caring for others, very few in need of care were represented.

Warning to students

By Paul Flather
of *The Times Higher Education Supplement*

Students were given a lesson in realism yesterday when finance officers intervened in a debate at their national conference in Blackpool to head off appeals for the union to take on more political campaigns.

Delegates to the National Union of Students' conference were reminded that the union needed to plan for an income shortfall of at least £50,000 forecast for 1982.

The intervention rescued the NUS executive whose motion to cut expenditure and to continue with campaigns only when they related directly to students' interests was defeated.

Mr Howard Jones, a member of the finance committee, asked the delegates what plans had been made about savings and jobs. "You must put your own house in order before you try to build a tower block", he said.

After a series of votes the union was left with no clear list of priorities. Those will be decided by the executive.

The votes coincided with the reelection of Mr David Aaronovitch, a member of the Left Alliance Coalition, as president for a second year in a close contest. He beat his nearest rival, Miss Helen Connor, of the National Organization of Labour Students, by 324 votes to 308.

Mr Jenkins offers the Liberals 'a partnership of principle'

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Liberals were offered a "partnership of principle" by Mr Roy Jenkins, one of the joint-leaders of the Social Democrats, speaking at a Gladstone Club dinner last night.

He said the two parties' difference of tradition could be a source of strength in giving them both wider appeal in trying to reconcile the nation. But for the present "we have no differences on the major issues", and they should not let "that closeness of view be a matter for reproach. An arrangement of convenience would be "rather discreditable".

He added, "How much better that we should be able to envisage a partnership of principle, agreed upon the main issues, affronted as is so much informed opinion," from the leading economists to the CBI, by the lasting and unnecessary damage being inflicted upon our economy by the present government, positive in our support for the mixed economy, resolved on electoral reform, determined on maintaining Britain's international links."

Before Mr Jenkins's speech it was learnt that informal talks exploring the way to a formal inter-party agreement had begun between Liberals and Social Democrat leaders.

Mr David Steel has already consulted Mr Jenkins and Dr David Owen, the Social Democrat's parliamentary leader. And at the annual Anglo-German conference at Königswinter this weekend the matter is to be pursued between Mr Steel, Mrs Shirley Williams, and Mr William Rodgers.

Of the Social Democrats' Gang of Four, Mr Jenkins has been most enthusiastic about an alliance with the Liberals. The others accept the need, but Mr Steel has not had the close contact with Mrs Williams and Mr Rodgers that he has enjoyed with Mr Jenkins.

Last night, speaking at the National Liberal Club meeting of the Gladstone Club, Mr Jenkins echoed Mr Steel's admonitions that a heavy burden would fall on those who prevented an alliance.

He said that what united Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Michael Foot was the fear that their two-party domination was about to be cracked, and hope that it could still be saved by a Liberal-Social Democrat dispute. "Our determination must be to underpin the fear and undermine the hope".

He went on: "If we fail to work together in a partnership of mutual respect and trust we shall throw away an opportunity which will not come again in this generation."

He told the Liberals: "You could preserve your ancient purity and we could enjoy our exciting novelty, but the old monopoly would survive, unloved, uncreative, but almost unscarred, and both of us and, more important, Britain, would be the losers."

Mr Steel's hopes for a common platform and an eventual electoral alliance with the Social Democrats should include participation in the selection of each other's candidates, Mr Roger Pincham, chairman of the Gladstone Club suggests in its newsletter.

Mr Pincham, Liberal candidate for Leominster and a senior party member, said that the greatest danger facing both parties "is that either should imagine that real progress can be made without the other".

Public investment: Mr Jenkins also argued in favour of a long-term incomes policy (a Staff Reporter writes).

"It is essential that a substantial part of our oil revenue be used for public investment", he said. He mentioned specifically railway electrification, expansion of telecommunications, and renewal of the water and sewerage infrastructure.

Terrorist faces farmer at by-election

From Christopher Thomas
Enniskillen, co Fermanagh

Only Northern Ireland could produce an election to the Commons in which the sole contenders are a terrorist aged 26 and a middle-aged gentleman farmer.

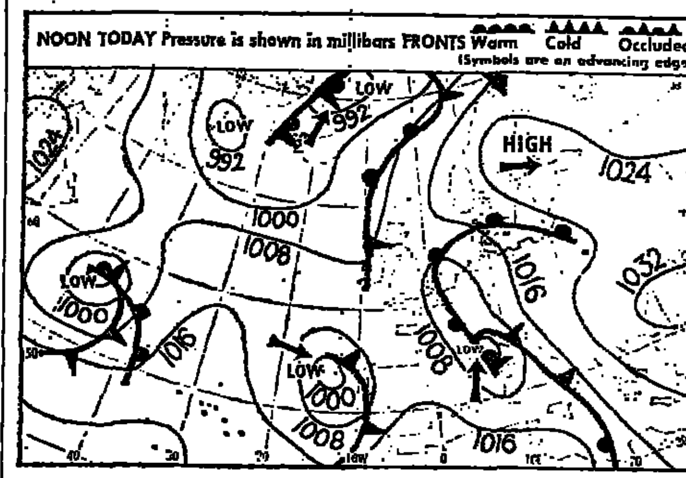
The Fermanagh and South Tyrone by-election on April 9 is symbolic of the ancient divisions in Ireland. Certainly it is more than just another election; when an Irish rebel meets an establishment Unionist in democratic combat, it must have a very special flavour.

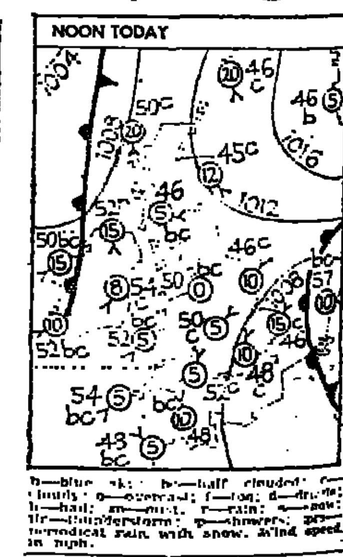
Provisional Sinn Fein's extraordinary guile and taste for intrigue produced Mr Robert Sands, the IRA hunger striker, as the only non-unionist runner.

Recrimination against Roman Catholic politicians, some of whom are appalled at the prospect, were in full spate yesterday because they know that Sinn Fein has already been given a huge victory whatever the outcome on April 9. And if Mr Sands wins it will be a propaganda sensation.

Mr Sands, who will resign if elected, is fighting an establishment figure Mr Harold West, aged 64, a landowner and former Westminster MP.

Weather forecast and recordings





b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; pr—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

Today

Sun rises: 6.36 am Sun sets: 7.34 pm
Moon rises: 5.22 am Moon sets: 3.08 pm
New moon: April 4.
Lighting up: 8.04 pm to 6.04 am.
High water: London Bridge, 11.52 am, 5.9m. Avonmouth, 4.56 am, 10.7m; 5.33 pm, 11.2m. Dover, 9.08 am, 5.5m; 9.34 pm, 5.8m. Hull, 4.27 am, 6.1m; 4.41 pm, 6.3m. Liverpool, 9.22 am, 7.9m; 9.57 pm, 8.1m.
1 ft=0.3048m. 1m=3.2808ft.

Slack low pressure over to SE. Weak frontal trough will approach the NW.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, central S, E, central N England, East Anglia, Midlands: Mostly cloudy, rain or drizzle in places, wind E to NE, light to moderate; max temp 7° to 10°C (45° to 50°F).

Channel Islands, SW England, S Wales: Rather cloudy, some bright intervals, perhaps a little rain or drizzle in places; wind varible, mostly S, light to moderate; max temp 10° or 11°C (50° to 52°F).

N Wale, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man: Mostly dry, some bright or sunny intervals; Wind variable, light to moderate; max temp 10° to 13°C (50° to 55°F).

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Orkney: Mostly cloudy, drizzle in places, misty; wind E to SE, light or moderate; max temp 5° to 8°C (41° to 46°F).

SW, NE Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Moray Firth: Dry, bright or sunny intervals; wind variable, light or moderate; max temp 13° to 15°C (55° to 59°F).

Argyll, NW Scotland, Northern Ireland: Perhaps some showery rain, bright intervals; wind S moderate; max temp 10° to 13°C (50° to 55°F).

Shetland: Cloudy, mostly dry; wind SE, moderate or fresh; max temp 5°C (41°F).

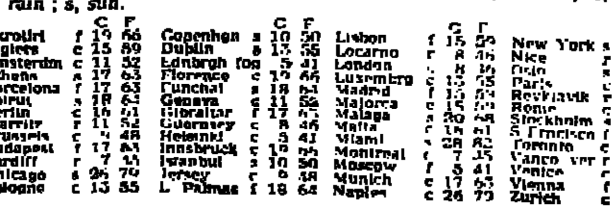
Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Rather cold and cloudy with some rain or drizzle in the E. Mostly dry with sunny periods and rather warm in the W.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind mainly N, light or moderate; sea mainly slight.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind mainly S, light or moderate; sea mainly slight.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 9°C (48°F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 6°C (43°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 85 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 7 pm, 0.19in. Sun, 24 hr to 7 pm, 0.4 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm 1,014.3 millibars, steady.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.



WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	19	66	Copenhgn	s	10	50	Lisbon	f	15	59	New York	s	19	66
Algiers	c	15	59	Dublin	s	13	55	Locarno	r	8	46	Nice	f	16	61
Amsterdm	c	11	52	Edinbrgh	fog	5	41	London	c	8	46	Oslo	s	8	46
Athens	s	17	63	Florence	c	19	66	Luxembrg	c	13	55	Paris	c	10	50
Barcelona	f	17	63	Funchal	s	18	64	Madrid	f	15	59	Reykjavik	r	5	41
Beirut	s	18	64	Geneva	c	11	52	Majorca	c	15	59	Rome	c	24	75
Berlin	c	16	61	Gibraltar	f	17	63	Malaga	s	20	68	Stockholm	s	10	50
Biarritz	r	11	52	Guernsey	c	8	46	Malta	c	16	61	S Frncisco	f	13	55
Brussels	c	9	48	Helsinki	c	5	41	Miami	s	28	82	Toronto	c	12	54
Budapest	f	17	63	Innsbruck	c	19	66	Montreal	c	7	45	Vancouver	r	7	45
Cardiff	r	7	45	Istanbul	s	10	50	Moscow	f	5	41	Venice	c	18	64
Chicago	s	26	79	Jersey	c	9	48	Munich	c	17	63	Vienna	f	17	63
Cologne	c	13	55	L Palmas	f	18	64	Naples	c	26	79	Zurich	c	12	54

Overseas selling prices
Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B Frs 35; Canaries Pes 100; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark Dkr 6.00; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mkk 5; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3.00; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 2.75; Iran IR 150; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Republic 20p; Italy L 1400; Jordan LD 0.425; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LI 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 50; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 5.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rs 16; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar QR 5; Saudi Arabia SR 5.25; Singapore 6.00; Spain Pes 100; Sweden Skr 5; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS 5.50; Tunisia Din 450; US and Canada $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 40

Published daily except Sundays, January 1, December 25 and 26 and Good Friday by Times Newspapers Limited, London WC1X 8EZ. Subscription Postage paid yearly by Air Freight thence 2nd class Great Britain to at New York Times New service at Great Britain 201 East 42nd Street, New York NY 10017. Telephone NY 212 986 9251.
All subscription rates on request.

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Mobility scheme for people who need to switch districts

A scheme is launched today to help tenants throughout England and Wales who want to move to a different region for work or social reasons.

The National Mobility Scheme will be open to tenants and people high on waiting lists of all local authorities, new towns and housing associations that cooperate. But anyone with a pressing need for a new start will be eligible.

Each local authority and new town will offer a given number of lettings each year for people within the same county who simply need to switch districts.

Each authority will also make available 1 per cent of its annual lettings for people needing to move in from outside the county. Further lettings on offer will depend on how many people are rehoused by authorities in other parts of ...

To qualify, applicants must have permanent work outside reasonable daily travelling distance from home, or have to move on social grounds.

The elderly, handicapped or single-parent families, needing to move nearer to relatives or friends, might benefit.

Mr John Stanley, Minister for Housing and Construction, said in London yesterday that it would not be possible for every tenant in every town to move wherever they liked. But he believed the scheme would make a material improvement in existing arrangements that were "unsatisfactory and inflexible".

The scheme was warmly welcomed by district and metropolitan authorities. Mr John Morgan, housing chairman of the Association of District Councils, said almost half its 333 member-authorities would cooperate.

Mr John Mills, housing chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said: "This will help authorities cut through red tape and get to the heart of the matter."

Mr Simon Randall, chairman of the housing and works committee of the London Boroughs Association, which has helped more than 3,000 households in its own scheme since 1978, said: "At present it is very difficult for a council tenant to move from one area to another.

"It is in effect a change of landlord. This will make moving around the country easier."

The National Mobility Office will be run by the new scheme's director, Mr Ben Affleck, formerly housing director for Milton Keynes Development Corporation.

The cost of the office will be met initially by the Department of the Environment under new powers provided in the Housing Act.

Welsh councils warned of housing decline

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

Local authorities in Wales have been told by Plaid Cymru that their adherence to government financial targets is causing the housing stock to deteriorate to a point where much of it will become irrecoverable.

The party says in a letter that Welsh housing funding is on a dangerous spiral of decline. It urges the authorities to base housing investment programmes on the needs of each area, not on the guidelines for "financial realism".

Mr Dafydd Elis Thomas, Plaid Cymru MP for Merioneth, said: "If the authorities continue to make unrealistic bids unrelated to the real housing conditions of the areas they serve, the Treasury will never be presented with a demand for resources that relates to the real needs of the people".

He added: "We regard the fact that the number of public sector housing starts in Wales in 1980 was the lowest since the winter of 1935-36 and the massive spending cut from £225m in 1979-80 to £100m in 1983-84 as the greatest disaster affecting the people of Wales, equalled only by the rate of unemployment."

Mr Thomas said that the figures were based on the Welsh housing investment programme. They had been confidential until this year, and were not generally available because they had been placed only in the House of Commons library.

The party's criticism of local authorities was supported in a recent Shelter report which stated that Wales has much worse housing conditions than England. In some of the industrial valleys, it said, 40 out of every 100 homes were unfit to live in.

Cult's 'love-bomb' that was better than a gun

By Marcel Berlins

The battle for the minds of the jury took nearly six months, far longer than it usually took the Moonies to recruit their vulnerable victims into membership of the cult. The jury were battered by more than 100 witnesses, three-quarters of them on the Moonies' side, and emerged yesterday with a unanimous verdict that allegations in an article in the *Daily Mail* on May 29, 1978, that the Moonies broke up families, brainwashed young people and set children against their parents, were true.

The jury was told how the Moonies drew their recruits mainly from young, reasonably intelligent, middle-class people. In the United States they would befriend young tourists alone or in pairs, hitch-hiking or university campuses.

They would invite them back to their farm or house, where everyone would be attentive, affectionate and flattering. They would join in all the activities, and so gradually be weaned into a Moonie existence. One of the techniques used was "love-bombing" and hugging, a technique denied by the Moonies.

According to counsel for the defence, Lord Rawlinson, QC, the recruits' involvement would gradually take on a more doctrinal pattern, and they would be taught Moonie beliefs. One of the tenets of the cult was that sins had to be paid for, "indemnified". For instance, the Jews who had died in the concentration camps were paying indemnity for Christ's Crucifixion. The only way to be saved was to become a Moonie, and to reject the "satanic" world outside, including one's family.

The *Daily Mail* called several former Moonies, some of them who had reached high positions in the cult, to describe recruiting and mind-controlling techniques used. One witness gave evidence that violence in the form of beatings up played a part in the process. Many told of being denied sleep and always having to be with other Moonies, never alone.

Dramatic evidence was given by Miss Christine Dixon, aged 29, from Manchester, who had attended a one-week course near Reading. She was told that because of her sin in bearing a child while unmarried, the child had to be taken away from her and placed in a Moonie school away from the "satanic" world.

When she returned home after the course, she became so disturbed that she locked herself in the bathroom with her daughter, Beth, ran the bath, and put Beth in it. "I asked Beth to lie down and die," she said. Her parents saved the child by breaking down the door. Two hours earlier, she had tried to set fire to her father with a cigarette lighter. "I thought he was evil and satanic. It was to cleanse him."

The effect of the cult on families was vividly illustrated by Mr Lawrence Fisher, of Morley, West Workshire, who told of how his wife went to the United States in an unsuccessful attempt to persuade their Moonie son, Kevin, to come home. "When she returned, her health deteriorated rapidly. She died of a broken heart", he said. Kevin refused to come back to see her even when she was dying.

Mr Orme called evidence of the continuing close relationship between parents and the Moonie children while other Moonie witnesses denied that parents were allowed to see their children only under closely controlled conditions.

Mr Roy Faiers, a publisher, of Cheltenham, told the jury that his son Martin, a former Moonie, had once predicted that if his father wrote anything against the cult, the father would die within 40 days. Subsequently, Mr Faiers staged a commando-style operation to get his son back. Martin was now involved in rehabilitating other former Moonies.

Other sad parents gave evidence of finding their children like automatons, with glazed eyes ("the thousand-mile stare") completely insensitive to their parents' distress, and lacking any ability to think for themselves.

Some parents, luckier than others, told how they managed to "gidnap" or in some other way induce back their children, and "deprogramme" them from the Moonie doctrine. That deprogramming process was the subject of bitter denunciation from Mr Dennis Orme, the plaintiff, who is head of the Unification Church in Britain, and other Moonie witnesses who alleged that it involved physical coercion and threats.

Most Moonies gave everything they had to the cult. Mr Henry Masters, a former architect, gave them four valuable farms in Stanton Fitzwarren, Wiltshire. He gave up his practice and went to work for them full time.

Because of donations by members, and the raising of money by other means, often dishonest, the Moonies were a very rich organization. The jury was told that they would solicit money for apparently worthy causes, a community centre, or for youth work, for instance, without mentioning who the recipient would really be. The jury was told how the cult taught that it was not wrong to use deceit to raise money for the cult.

The judge allowed only one witness on either side to give expert psychological evidence. The *Daily Mail*'s witness, Dr Margaret Singer, an American professor who studied brainwashing techniques, had no doubts about the Moonies.

"The Unification Church uses mind-control to get control of people's lives and identities. Their methods of 'love-bombing' and deception work much more rapidly than the gun at the head or torture."

She described the three stages of the brainwashing process. First, there was the stripping down of a person's identity by a process of self-betrayal. That was followed by the stage during which past identities were punished and the new identity rewarded. Finally the old self died and the Moonie was born.

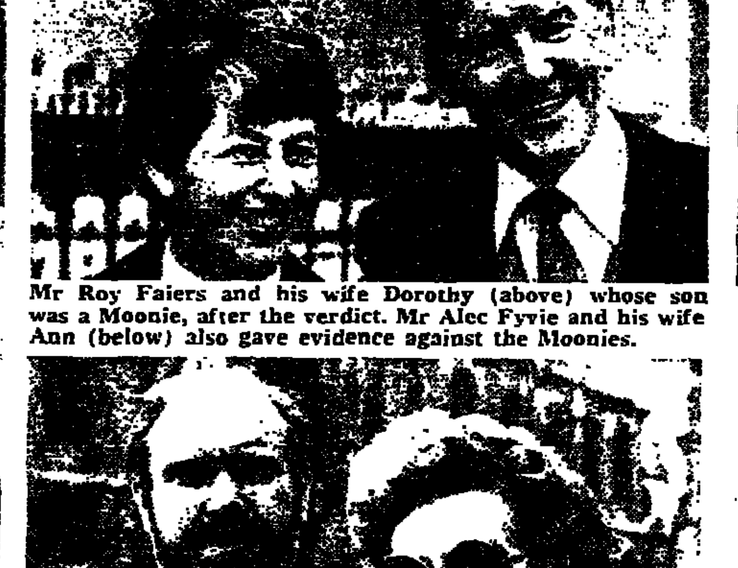
The Moonies' expert had denied that brainwashing had taken place. His experience was that there could be no brainwashing without physical coercion.

From the first day, it had been clear that the jury's verdict would turn on the credibility of the witnesses called by the two sides. Which version of the Moonies' activities would they believe? Mr Orme gave lengthy evidence himself and called a procession of witnesses. He claimed that the Unification Church was a harmless religious organization, providing solace and a sense of belonging to thousands of people in spiritual need.

He blamed dishonest distortion by the media for the sinister image that the Moonies had acquired. Many of his witnesses described how happy and contented they had become since joining the Moonies. Some of their parents attested to the improvement in their children. One of the Moonies' witnesses was Judy Salter, on whom half of the *Daily Mail* article was based. She had, after that, rejoined the Moonies.

The jury's verdict, and the riders attached, showed what the jury thought of those claims.

The Rev Sun Myung Moon, head of the cult.



Mr Roy Faiers and his wife Dorothy (above) whose son was a Moonie, after the verdict. Mr Alec Fyvie and his wife Ann (below) also gave evidence against the Moonies.

Mr Dennis Orme yesterday: "Distortion by the media."

Longest libel case changes law

By Our Legal Correspondent

As a direct result of the Moonies case, the law is to be changed to ensure that no libel jury will have to sit for so long again.

It was the longest and the costliest libel action in English legal history. It spanned nearly six months and occupied exactly 100 working jury days. Several more days were taken up by peripheral issues, involving costs, before other courts. The jury listened to more than 120 witnesses.

At various stages during the case, Mr Justice Comyn made clear his dissatisfaction that a jury should have to spend so long listening to a case. He was particularly angry at the wrong estimate made by the lawyers on both sides, who had said that it would take seven or eight weeks.

An amendment has recently been made to section 68 of the Supreme Court Bill, which is going through the Lords.

The section deals with civil actions that can be tried with a jury. Before the amendment, it allowed a court to refuse trial by jury for libel if the case involved the need for prolonged examination of documents or accounts, or making a scientific investigation.

The amendment, agreed at the Bill's committee stage, will also give a court discretion to refuse trial by jury if "the probable length of the trial makes the action one which cannot conveniently be tried with a jury".

The whole case will cost the Moonies more than £500,000 and perhaps as much as £750,000. During the course of the trial, they were ordered to deposit a total of £215,000 as security for costs in the event of their losing and having to pay the *Daily Mail's* costs, which they have been ordered to do.

The final figure they will have to pay the *Daily Mail* will exceed that, and, of course, they will have to pay their own costs.

Report says MI5 and MI6 papers could eventually be made public

Reform of system for releasing secrets urged

By Peter Hennessy

The Government is urged in a report published yesterday to breathe new life into its system for preserving, declassifying and releasing secret files to ensure that the raw material of history is not shredded and that as few documents as possible are withheld for more than 30 years.

The report also discloses that highly sensitive papers held in the registries of the Secret Intelligence Service, MI6, and the Security Service, MI5, previously regarded as material to be retained forever, could become public after 75 or 100 years should future governments so decide. MI5 was founded in 1909 and MI6 in 1911.

In its report to Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, the Public Records Committee, under Sir Duncan Wilson, a former Ambassador to Moscow, who retired last year as Master of Corpus Christi College, is cutting in its condemnation of the Macmillan, Home, Wilson, Heath, Callaghan and Thatcher administrations for failing to implement properly the sound system for handling departmental information promulgated in the Public Records Act, 1958.

Sir Duncan and his colleagues, Professor Margaret Gowing, of Oxford University, the official historian of the British atomic energy programme, and Sir Paul Osmond, former secretary to the Church Commissioners, hold up the inadequacy of Whitehall's performance on public records policy over the past 23 years as "a sobering commentary on the ability of government to implement administrative reforms which it accepted wholeheartedly and embodied in legislation".

Lord Hailsham welcomed the report as likely to make a "major contribution to the development of policy". He noted its 61 recommendations and asked for comments to be submitted to him in the next three months.

The impression in Whitehall yesterday was that the Government is in no hurry to act on the report. An elaborate process of interdepartmental consultation is in prospect, with hints that the present economic climate will militate against any extra manpower or money being devoted to the care of the nation's archive.

The report, however, says its findings, if acted upon, would involve only "modest increases" to the cost of the Whitehall records system which, in 1979-80, amounted to £11.7m.

The chief aim of the Wilson committee is to rescue public records policy from what a former Secretary of the Cabinet described as an "unsupervised backwater". To achieve that, the Lord Chancellor, as minister for public records, must play a much more active part in exercising real ministerial responsibility, with more vigorous participation and interest from secretaries of state, permanent secretaries and establishment officers.

The Keeper of the Public Records Office, the report suggests, should, in close concert with the Lord Chancellor's Department, take a more assertive line in ensuring that departmental records work comes up to standard. His team of eight inspectors, which, between them, have to supervise 200 departments and public bodies, should have their status examined and their number increased by six.

To ensure that important files are not lost or shredded, "sector panels", modelled on an existing Ministry of Defence body, which contains historians from outside Whitehall, should be brought in to advise departments on what needed to be preserved and on the changing demands of the public and the academic profession.

The Lord Chancellor's Advisory Council on Public Records, the main watchdog body, should also be strengthened. To protect the public interest, sime of its members should be allowed to examine papers withheld for longer than 30 years on grounds of security or personal sensitivity to ensure that departments are not being overcautious.

Sir Duncan said yesterday he wanted the Government to act on the report as soon as it could. He was keen for the Commons select committee on could. He was ken for the home affairs to take up the matter of public records reform and to monitor progress. At present, all aspects of the Lord Chancellor's Department are immune from scrutiny by parliamentary committees.

Picking out the most important findings, Sir Duncan added: "If departments really got down to a system of sector panels a great deal would stem from that. Real ministerial responsibility is important and also more comprehensive advice for the advisory council which cannot do without much more information on what is withheld under sections of 3(4) and 5(1) of the Public Records Act".

In addition to its disclosure about the preservation and possible eventual release of MI6 and MI5 papers, the report reveals that the actual longhand notes taken around the Cabinet table by the Secretary of the Cabinet have been kept since 1946. Should they be published, and the Wilson committee recommends the matter be considered in 1996, it will be possible to discover in detail who said what in a way that cannot be derived from the dry, printed record released after 30 years.

The report describes how the public records system could be developed should future governments move towards freedom of information. It urges that material released under Whitehall's existing open government policy, enshrined in the Croham directive, should be collected centrally at the Public Record Office in Kew.

Modern Public Records. Selection and Access. Report of a committee appointed by the Lord Chancellor. (Stationery Office, £8.10).

Leading article, page 15

Naval lieutenant fell down drunk at party

From Our Correspondent
Portsmouth

A court martial at Portsmouth was told yesterday that Lieutenant Ray Davies, aged ..., fell to the floor during an evening reception for officers of the submarine HMS Otus, given by Tayside council, Dundee.

"He had to be assisted to his feet and helped to a chair by a lady to whom he had been talking", Lieutenant Commander Norman Green, for the prosecution, said. The court was told that Lieutenant Davies, from Portsmouth, had been drinking most of the day.

"He first went with other officers to a lunch given by the Dundee port authority. He had drinks beforehand and wine during the meal. Towards the end of the meal his condition deteriorated and his manner changed, he became rowdy and shifted his position at the table." He had more drinks before going on to the dinner.

Lieutenant Davies, who admitted being drunk, was severely reprimanded. He said he was deeply sorry.

BBC TV planning all-day service on one channel

By Kenneth Gosling

A full all-day service of general television programmes on one channel, probably BBC1, is being planned as part of the corporation's strategy.

But before that happens BBC2 is likely to begin its own programmes at about 4 pm, coinciding with the start of the children's schedules on BBC1.

The extent to which the plans can be implemented will depend greatly on the size of the next licence fee increase, how long it will last, and the rate of inflation. However, the new pattern for BBC2, which is expected to incorporate repeats of its best programmes, should be under way by next winter.

The BBC is halfway through an intensive campaign to persuade the public and the Government that its programmes represent value for money and will do so even if a colour licence cost £50: the case for that £16 increase will be presented to the Government in the autumn.

Mr Brian Wenham, controller, BBC2, anxious to dispel the assumption that no one takes much interest in television in summer, has given me a preview of what he calls "new departures"—original material that will be screened on the channel from May onwards.

There will, for example, be a seven-part series with Richard Leakey, called *The Making of Mankind*, falling somewhere between *Life on Earth* and *The Ascent of Man*; seven interviews with leading political figures by Robert McKenzie; a series featuring the personal pleasures of Sir Hugh Casson, president of the Royal Academy; documentaries on photography by Lord Snowdon; and a three-part series on General Moshe Dayan.

In the autumn a festival of music will include 10 programmes on Mozart, a Solti weekend, master classes with Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, and the Leeds international piano competition.

It is also planned to repeat several award-winning programmes. Mr Wenham rejects accusations that there are too many repeats.

Wives granted Nationality Bill extension

By Geoffrey Browning
Parliamentary Staff

The Government yesterday accepted an Opposition amendment to the British Nationality Bill to extend from two to five years the period during which the wives of United Kingdom and Colonies citizens would be entitled to register as British citizens.

Mr Timothy Raison, Minister of State, Home Office, surprised the Commons committee considering the Bill by first explaining why the Government had decided on two years, then conceding that it was not based on "absolute principle". He rejected the case for an indefinite right to register.

This Bill was more generous to women because, unlike the case of Commonwealth citizens settled before 1973, there was no five-year residence period.

Foreign women who had married British citizens would make up their minds quickly on the issue because they had already "plumped for their husbands".

The amendment was agreed.

European judgment on pay helps woman part-time workers

By Lucy Hodges

The Equal Opportunities Commission yesterday claimed to have won a partial victory at the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg in a case where a part-time woman worker claimed the same hourly rate of pay as a full-timer.

The commission said it was clear that women part-timers could get equal pay under European law in certain circumstances. "But we cannot tell how many of the 3,765,000 women part-time workers in Britain are going to benefit", it said. The commission had hoped for a broader, more detailed decision and was disappointed that it did not cover all part-time workers.

Yesterday's judgment in the case of Mrs Jeanette Jenkins, a machinist who was paid 9½p less an hour than a man doing the same work, says that part-time work which is less well paid pro rata than full-time work does not on its own contravene the Treaty of Rome.

But where an employer intends to treat women less favourably, that is discrimination under Article 119 of the treaty which says that member states must follow the principle of equal pay for work of equal value.

Employers have to show that the difference between full-time and part-time rates is accounted for by "objectively justifiable factors" and is not related to discrimination based on sex in order to continue paying the different rates.

The European Court of Justice has made it clear that Article 119 of the Treaty of Rome is applicable directly to all forms of discrimination.

"The judgment leaves a great deal to be worked out in our own tribunals and courts and we think it strengthens our case for the need for amending legislation to clarify our own laws, particularly those affecting the 40 per cent of women who work part-time," the commission said.

The case of Mrs Jenkins, of Harlow, Essex, was brought against Kingsgate (Clothing Productions) Ltd. It will now return to the Employment Appeal Tribunal in London for it to decide how to interpret what is seen as Luxembourg's delphic judgment.

Mrs Jenkins lost her case at an industrial tribunal and at the appeal tribunal on the grounds that her contract of employment was "materially different" from a full-time man's under the Equal Pay Act and that the difference was not based on sex. English judges have consistently maintained that part-timers cannot claim equal pay under the Equal Pay Act and the commission would like to see that changed.

Letters, page 15

Professor Quirk may head university

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Professor Randolph Quirk, Quain professor of English language and literature at University College London, has been offered the post of vice-chancellor of London University at what must be the most critical point in the university's 145-year history.

The special appointments committee, chaired by Lord Scarman, which was set up in January by the university's Senate to recommend a successor to Lord Annan, the present vice-chancellor, decided at a confidential meeting on Monday to offer the post to Professor Quirk. Sir Rex Richards, vice-chancellor of Oxford, and Lord Flowers, Rector of Imperial College, London, were the other two candidates on the final short list.

No announcement is expected to be made for two months. Professor Quirk, who was runner-up to Lord Annan when he was appointed vice-chancellor three years ago, was clearly taken aback that news of the offer had leaked out.

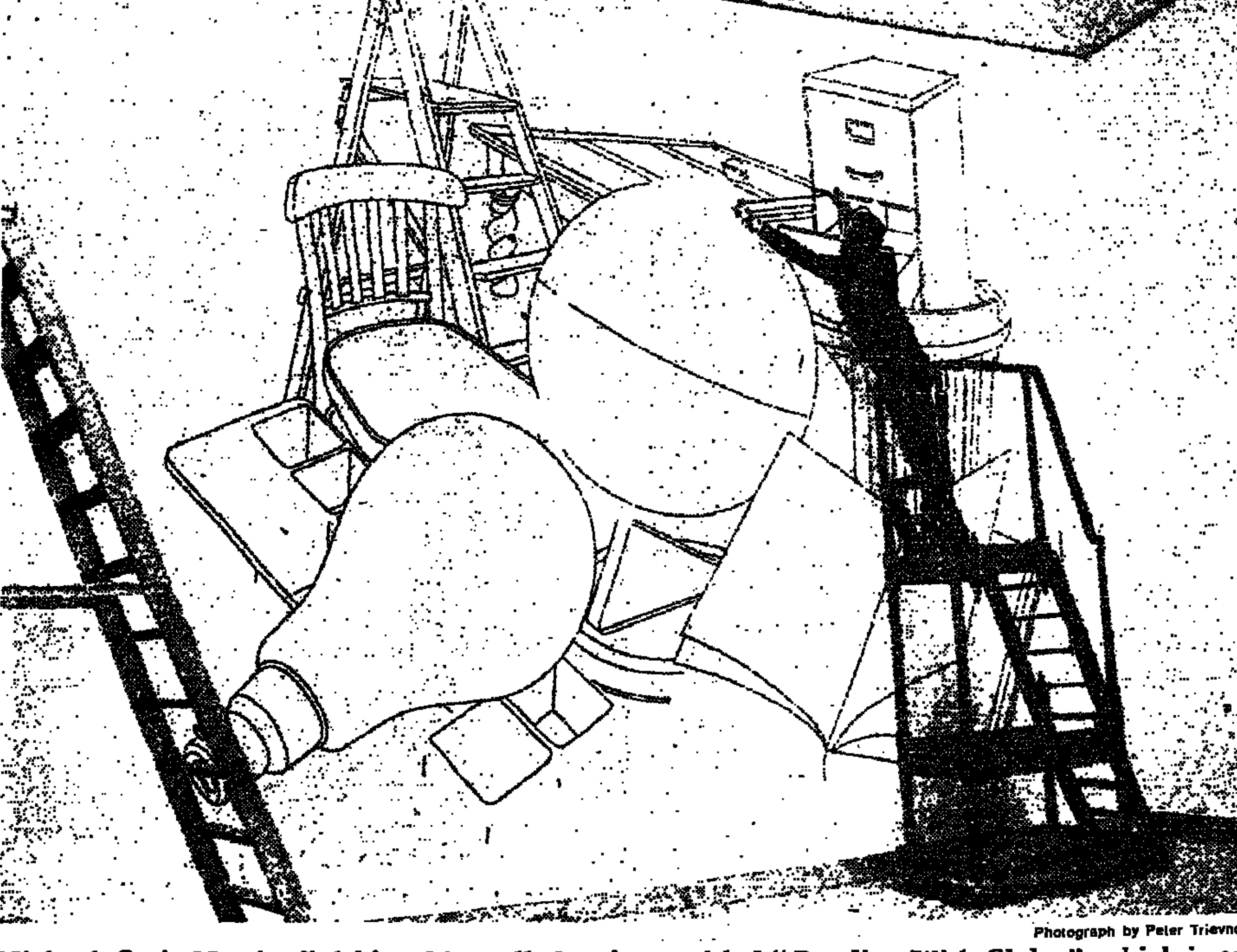
"I am devastated by this (telephone) call. I have not made up my mind whether to accept. It is a very, very, serious decision indeed, and it is going to take a great deal of thought on my part", he said.

Professor Quirk, aged 60, is one of the most distinguished, prolific and popular figures in the university. Educated at Douglas High School, Isle of Man, and University College London, he returned to University College after five years in the air force during the war to take up his first post as lecturer in English at the age of 27.

Eleven years later, he was made Professor of English language at Durham University, returning to London in 1960. He was a highly successful chairman of the university's academic committee in the mid-seventies, but has recently kept out of the mainstream of the university's affairs, though he is a member of the controversial Swinnerton-Dyer committee.

Membership of that committee, set up by Lord Annan to recommend the best way of securing academic excellence in non-medical studies at the university while carrying out the necessary cuts in spending, would be considered most undesirable if he accepted the vice-chancellorship.

Birmingham appointment: Professor Edward Marsland, vice-principal of Birmingham University, has been appointed vice-chancellor and principal for one year from October, 1981, pending the appointment of a permanent successor to Lord Hunter of Newington.



Photograph by Peter Trievnor

Michael Craig-Martin finishing his wall drawing entitled "Reading With Globe", which is on view at the Tate Gallery. A slide is projected on to a wall and the image outlined with tape.

Three top jobs at ministry to be cut

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

Three of the most senior jobs at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food are to be abolished, Mr Peter Walker, the Minister, announced yesterday.

They include that of chief scientist, held since 1977 by Dr Bernard Weitz, aged 61. His salary is £24,500 a year.

The cuts have come in a reorganization recommended by a committee of civil servants that was established three months after the Conservatives came into office.

The job of deputy director general of the Government's farm advisory service is also to go. That post is held by Mr Eric Carter, aged 57, at a salary of £22,110. The job of chief administrator of the service, now vacant, will also be abolished. The salary is £20,500.

Mr Walker said: "It is a matter of personal regret to me that these changes, which are being made for organizational reasons, should lead to the retirement a little earlier than would otherwise have been the case of Bernard Weitz and Eric Carter".

The reorganization committee was chaired by Sir Brian Hayes, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry, whose salary is £28,500. It included Dr Keith Dexter, director general of the Farm Advisory Service (salary £24,500).

Dr Dexter's responsibilities will be widened to include some of those of the chief scientist. Other leading scientific staff will, for the first time, be made policy advisers with access to ministers.

"I am ensuring that they can help me give full weight to the immediate and potential implications of research", Mr Walker said. "The changes I have announced will help to bring scientific expertise more directly to bear on the process of policy formation."

BL rejects Longbridge peace plan

By Clifford Webb
Midland Industrial Correspondent

British Leyland yesterday rejected a peace formula put forward by the leaders of four white-collar unions to end the long dispute over compulsory staff redundancies at its Longbridge car plant.

They wanted men made redundant to be allowed to work notice periods in the hope that more staff would volunteer to leave or that more vacancies would need filling.

But the company said the deadline had already been extended at the request of the unions and a further extension would only prolong a difficult situation.

"We must complete the last of the 4,250 staff cuts in BL cars by tonight so that we can get on with the job of making and selling cars", the company said.

BL's resolution will be put to the test today when a group of men who should have ceased work last night present themselves at the factory.

Pay beds to cost 15.5 pc more

By a Staff Reporter

National Health Service charges to private patients for pay beds and other hospital services are to rise by an average of 15.5 per cent from today to keep them in line with inflation since last April, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced yesterday.

The increase will take the charge for a private bed in a single room in a London teaching hospital to £111.70p a day, with doctor's fees on top, and to £124.60 for an equivalent bed in a London postgraduate hospital.

Provincial non-teaching hospitals will cost £72.20 or £83 a day, depending on category, for the same facilities.

But BUPA, the private health group, said the retail price index had risen by only 12 per cent since last April. It added: "Our feeling is that, in the London area particularly where charges have gone up 17 to 18 per cent, the rises are somewhat larger than we feel to be justified."

Government tells eight reluctant London boroughs they must accept transfer of GLC dwellings

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The Government's decision yesterday to order the transfer of Greater London Council housing to eight boroughs reluctant to accept it brought an immediate protest from the Labour opposition at last night's council meeting.

Mr Andrew McIntosh, leader of the opposition, complained that the compulsory transfer "seals the fate of people in the inner boroughs in that it makes it impossible for them to escape from their housing predicament".

He said that the council was required to carry out repairs on the properties, but there was not enough money in the council's housing investment programme allocation to do so.

The protest came after Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced in the House of Commons that he would be making an order under section 23(3) of the London Government Act, 1963, to transfer the council's stock in the eight boroughs on April 1, 1982. The boroughs are: Brent, Camden, Hackney, Harringey, Hounslow, Lambeth, Lewisham and Waltham Forest.

Mr Heseltine said there had been intensive consultations after the GLC asked him in May, 1980, to order the transfer to the boroughs which were "unwilling to accept the transfer of the stock".

The eight boroughs took the issue to the High Court but lost the legal battle to prevent transfer.

Mr Heseltine said: "I am now satisfied that it is right for the housing to be managed at borough level. I also believe that terms can be determined which will not only enable the stock to be assimilated smoothly but will also lead to more effective housing management

He said the order would take into account the boroughs' views on the GLC's proposals and would impose an obligation on the GLC to bring the property up to an acceptable standard over 10 years.

He added that the need for housing mobility in London had changed consierably. The GLC's mobility scheme for the transferred stock, with the inter-borough nomination scheme, provided an adequate framework for meeting those needs without the necessity of retaining the GLC as a housing management authority.

Mr George Tremlett, leader of the GLC housing policy committee, told the council that in the 1977 election the Conservative Party had pledged to divest itself of housing.

"As of tomorrow", he said, "we have by voluntary agreement transferred 132,000 dwellings to some 46 authorities." In addition, there had been an agreement with Tower Hamlets for a joint management scheme for about 30,000 dwellings. That meant that by voluntary agreement the council had transferred 162,000 of the area's 238,000 dwellings.

After the debate Mr McIntosh emphasized that the Conservatives had sought an assurance from the Government that sufficient funds would be made available to carry out their duty, but had received a "dusty answer". He added that after the local government elections in May, assuming that the Labour Party wins, Labour would go to Mr Heseltine to demand adequate resources.

It will cost the GLC an estimated £450m over the next 10 years to bring the dwellings up to the required standard. In addition, the council will pay over the same period an estimated £337m for the maintenance and management of the transferred stock.

Proposals "not adequate": Mr Derek Godfrey, chairman of Camden's housing development committee, said Camden objected to the transfer on the financial ground and on principle (Staff Reporters write).

"It is very clear that a lot of the housing problems in the inner city cannot be resolved in inner London alone," he said. "There will have to be a contribution from the outer London boroughs, and the GLC was a mechanism for doing that in that it did build in outer London and did allow people to move out there. The potential for that is going to be very severely reduced."

The mobility proposals were clearly not adequate.

In addition, he said, Camden had largely completed its modernization of inter-war properties, but the GLC had only pust started

Communists offer free fares system

By Our Local Government

A cheap flat-fare system leading to free public transport, the development of a strategic housing role and the expansion of the public sector to create jobs are among proposals contained in the Communist Party manifesto for the Greater London Council election on May 7.

The party believes that public transport must be a social service and argues that central government should provide funds to finance it, as in many European cities.

Overall, the party says that central government should provide more money. "Local authorities cannot pay for all their own services, and even if they could there would still be serious inequalities between richer and poorer areas. London as the national capital is obviously in need of national finance for the nationwide services and facilities it provides."

The manifesto bears resemblance in several fields to that of the Labour Party, and states that communists will support many of Labour's proposals.

"But for a party of working people it has been all too eager to exclude many of those who make up its ranks, trade unionists and tenants, from the systematic exercise of political power."

Some Labour councillors had become increasingly remote from the needs and wishes of the communities they served, and local government had become dominated by bureaucratic forms and procedures that were used against the working people.

Heads fear shift of power

By Our Education Correspondent

A vigorous defence of the need for a national educational body, such as the Schools Council, to stop the drift towards central control of the education system, was made yesterday by Mr John Tomlinson, chairman of the council.

The future of the council which acts as a national forum for the different interests in the educational world, including parents and employers, is in question after the Government's decision to set up an independent review of its functions, constitution and methods of work.

Speaking at the annual conference of the Secondary Heads Association in Sheffield, Mr Tomlinson said: "Whenever two or three from teachers' associations or schools or local education authorities are gathered together the refrain is the same: the power is shifting dangerously towards the centre."

The evidence of that shift seemed to be widespread: in Government moves on the block grant for local authorities, the curriculum, public examinations, teachers' conditions of service, higher education, the schools Inspectorate, which was also under review, and the Schools Council itself.

He was not among those who believed there was a huge conspiracy by Government to centralize the curriculum and control the schools. He doubted whether Westminster had the wish or the capacity to do that. But there was a subtle shift, and it was time for the educational empire to "strike back".

Having served as chairman of the Schools Council for more than three years, he could say that it was worth paying attention to the quality of thinking that arose when different interests had to listen to and accommodate each other; when teachers were confronted by politicians, parents by industrialists, school inspectors by trade unionists.

The Schools Council "probably represents the nearest we can get as a nation to a consensus on any particular topic at any particular time, and therefore it has the best chance of acceptance, of being practicable, and of being capable of change", he said.

He expressed concern at the way the by-products of the Government's expenditure policy were widening the gap between schools in affluent and schools in deprived areas.

In brief

Tradition slips its moorings

A tradition of naval service lasting 62 years ended yesterday when the Second Frigate Squadron at the Isle of Portland, Dorset, was disbanded and sailed ti new ports.

The squadron was formed in 1919 as the first anti-submarine wartime flotilla based at Portland. The present squadron, HMS Londonderry, HMS Antelope and HMS Torquay, led by HMS Diomede, left their moorings to a fieldgun salute and wailing sirens. HMS Lowestoft was at sea and missed the ceremony.

Borehole plea rejected

Mr Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, has rejected demands by Somerset County Council for a planning inquiry to examine proposals for sinking test boreholes for dumping radioactive waste at Brent Knoll and Puriton, which are in Mr King's Bridgwater constituency.

Roman coins found

Nearly 400 Roman silver coins have been unearthed at Bromham, Wiltshire, by two brothers who were trying out a new farm machine. Some of the coins bore the head of Constantius II (AD 337-361) and others Julian the Apostate (AD 361-363).

Boy fugitive surrenders

A boy, aged 15, who was on the run from an approved school, surrendered after keeping police and firemen at bay for more than two hours yesterday by throwing tiles from the roof of his parents' house in Bestwood, Nottingham.

Abbey National inquiry

A formal investigation into the Abbey National Building Society has been announced by the Commission for Racial Equality after an alleged instance of racial discrimination at one of the society's branches.

Hailwood funeral

Colleagues and supporters from the world of motor sport yesterday attended the funeral of Mr Mike Hailwood, the motor cycle champion, who was killed with his young daughter in a road crash.

Pigs die in fire

More than 250 pigs were killed yesterday when fire destroyed piggery buildings at a farm at Little London, Longhope, Gloucestershire.

Lord divorced

Lord Pembroke and Montgomery was yesterday granted a decree nisi in the London Divorce Court. Evidence was given of adultery by his wife.

Pogo dancing craze may crack dance floors

By John Huxley

Structural engineers fear that dance floors throughout Britain may be cracking because of the pounding from the pop craze of pogo dancing. Later today, the British Standards Institute is due to consider whether recommended floor loadings should be increased to take account of the new threat.

Pogoing is generally performed en masse to loud, fast, uncomplicated music, and comprises little more than jumping up and down to the beat. It is like bouncing on a pogo stick, but without the stick.

It is especially popular in confined spaces and may be accompanied by violent shaking of the head and, indeed, its more extreme exponents are sometimes referred to as "headbangers".

The threat to dance floors, no doubt constructed to withstand foxtrotters and boppers rather than pogoers, was disclosed in a report commissioned earlier this year by the architectural services department of Lothian Regional Council after engineers had discovered cracks in temporary flooring built for a pop concert in the Edinburgh Playhouse.

Mr Andrew Irwin, a vibration specialist in the civil engineering department at Heriott-Watt University, was asked to make tests during a concert by The Who pop group to a capacity audience of 3,000. Strain gauges, accelerometers and other measuring devices were used.

According to *New Civil Engineer*, the magazine of the Institution of Civil Engineers, they produced "alarming measurements of gross floor overloading". The report said that when the beat of the music was at about two and a half beats a second pogoing was such that "considerable dynamic modification of the live loading occurred".

The difference between "live" and "dynamic" load on a floor may be compared to that between walking about normally and jumping down from a table.

The Irwin report will be considered today by the loading code committee of the institute. It will almost certainly decide to send a circular to public and private owners of dance halls alerting them to the potential danger.

A member of the committee explained yesterday that the findings did not mean that dance floors were liable to collapse. "It is far more likely that they would merely deflect, that is, bend and crack.

"However, those who look after dance floors should be made aware of the potential dangers and decide whether steps should be taken to strengthen them."

He added that the damage was associated with the phenomenon of pogoing at pop concerts, where large groups of pogoers congregate near the stage.

Seatbelt law for children in cars likely

The Government plans to make it illegal for any child aged between one and 13 years to sit in the front seats of cars without wearing a seat belt, Mr Norman Fowler Secretary of State for Transport, announced last night.

Babies under the age of one will be barred altogether from sitting in the front, in changes to be amde to the Transport Bill going through Parliament.

Government support for an all-party campaign by backbench MPs to make the wearing of seat belts compulsory for youngsters travelling in front seats was announced by Mr Fowler at the Commons committee investibating the Bill.

Parents who ignore the proposed law will face a penalty of £50 fine.

The Department of Transport said last night that of the 70 children killed in road accidents last year when travelling as passengers, about a quarter had been in the front seat.

Anti-Nazi speech provokes European police dispute

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

A speech by a representative of the French police union to an Anti-Nazi League rally in London has provoked a fierce dispute within the European Association of Police Federations.

The Police Federation of England and Wales at one time threatened to withdraw from the association because of what it felt to be its involvement in politics.

The dispute comes after an association congress in Brighton in October at which the British felt unable to support a general resolution saying that no encouragement would be given to racism. The resolution said that member countries strongly opposed legislation helpful to or encouraging racism. They would not support racialist actions by the police and they opposed with all force all racialist tendencies.

The *Morning Star* of December 9, which reported the anti-Nazi League rally, said the French took the resolution very seriously. M Jean Pierre Grene, a representative of the French police union, had spoken against fascism, it said.

Mr Basil Griffiths, vice-chairman of the Police Federation of England and Wales, said last night, after a private meeting of the European association in Belfast: "We will have to consider our position in the association if it looks like becoming partisan or political, bearing in mind the attitude of the French. But we did tell them at the meeting we appreciated their previous role against naziism and said there is no way we could become involved."

The French union strongly denied involvement in politics or that it was being manipulated by the left. It had gone to the London rally, it said, at the invitation of the league, because of the bombing of a synagogue in Paris, and because of the resolution at the Brighton conference.

Mr Griffiths said that the association had decided to develop a code of conduct, directing the police not to become involved in the politics of member countries, which would be presented at a meeting of the association in Monaco in September.

The Anti-Nazi League had embarked on a campaign of vilification against members of the Police Federation, Mr Griffiths said. "It seems clear to us they emanate from a politically inspired design to drive a wedge of separation between the police and the immigrant communities."

Court allegation of beating with truncheon

From Our Correspondent
Sheffield

A court refused an application yesterday for two men to be remanded in police custody after allegations that one had been beaten with a truncheon.

Michael Waite stood in the dock with a cut across his left eye and his shirt and pullover covered with blood.

His solicitor, Mr Brian Wrigley, who asked for reporting restrictions to be lifted, told Sheffield Magistrates' Court that Mr Waite had refused to go to hospital. He wanted the court to see the result of the police action.

Mr Waite, aged 21, of Motehall Road, and Danny Doherty, aged 20, of Stanground Road, both of Sheffield, were charged with burglary at a shop. Mr Waite was also accused of causing bodily harm to Police Constable David Walker and Mr Doherty of wounding Det Constable Anthony Cawkwell.

Mr Christopher Jackson, for the prosecution, asked for a three-day remand in local custody and said stolen property had been recovered.

Mr Wrigley told the bench: "You have only to look at Mr Waite. His shirt and pullover are soaked in blood. He has a massive injury to his left eye."

Libel award for publisher against magazine

Mr Charles Monteith and Faber and Faber, the publishers, of which he is chairman, yesterday accepted "substantial" damages in settlement of a High Court libel action in London against *Private Eye*, the satirical magazine.

Complaint was made of an article in May, 1979, that referred to a dispute between Faber and Faber and Mr Robin Bryans, an author, and alleged the company "seemed to have committed perjury and got away with it".

Mr David Eady, counsel for the plaintiffs, told Mr Justice Comyn that they had not committed perjury, misled the High Court or behaved in any way incorrectly in their dealings with Mr Bryans.

Mr Monteith, of St John's Wood, north London, and his company, received their costs as well as the undisclosed damages sum.

Mr Desmond Browne, for Mr Richard Ingrams and Pressdram, editor and publishers of *Private Eye*, said they accepted that there was no foundation for the allegations in the article. They apologized for embarrassment and distress it caused.

Scientist given damages for injury during flight

Dr Philip Goldman, an anthropologist of Cyprus Road, Finchley, north London, was awarded £51,163 damages in the High Court in London yesterday for a broken back suffered when a Thai Airways DC8 aircraft in which he travelled from London to Bangkok flew into clear-air turbulence near Istanbul in July, 1977.

Dr Goldman, aged 57, was thrown from his seat and hit the aircraft's ceiling, Mr Justice Chapman said.

Altogether 13 passengers and crew were shot up to the roof, crockery was thrown all over the aircraft, seats and trolleys were damaged and the back of the aircraft was "like a battlefield", the judge added.

Dr Goldman was awarded his Thai Airways International, which had denied negligence.

Giving a reserved judgment, the judge said Dr Goldman had succeeded in proving not only that the airline was negligent, but tha it was reckless.

"I accept the opinion of the experts that the piloting of the aircraft on this occasion went beyond mere carelessness. It amounted, in my view, to recklessness with the knowledge of the probability that damages of some kind would result", the judge said.

The turbulence was forecast and yet the pilot had failed to take any of the precautions which he had been advised to take in a manual, even though his aircraft behaved abnormally before encountering the severe turbulence, he added.

Mr Justice Chapma nsaid Dr Goldman had been forced to shut his West End gallery, which specialized in primitive art. "He has been deprived of what, to hom, was not merely a hobby but a way of life", the judge said. "The art world in which he was engaged, and had an international reputation, apart from acting as a consultant as he now is, is more or less closed to him."

Afterwards Dr Goldman said: "I miss my previous life terribly. This award will not make up for that. I do travel, but I cannot do the arduous part. There is no possibility of me changing my career at this time."

Emphasis on spring at RHS flower show

By Our Horticulture Correspondent

The Royal Horticultural Society's Flower and Garden Equipment Show, which includes the daffodil competition, the magnolia and ornamental plant competition and the British Iris Society's spring show and comeptition, fills the new RHS hall in Westminster with interest.

Emphasis is on plants that make a good display during the spring months. These vary good small bulbous and alpine plants to large trees and shrubs. In addition, there are houseplants, herbs, ivies, bonsais and Japanese flower arrangements.

The only gold medal awarded was in the Lindley range, to Sir Giles Loder, Leonardslee, for his exquisite stand showing many types of camellias. It is unusual for an amateur to receive such an award.

Particularly worthy of note are several sprays of *Camellia variegata*, red and white with excellent foliage, picked in perfect condition from a bush that is known to be more than 100 years old.

Other noteworthy blooms include 'Margaret Davis', white edged pink, 'Augusto Pinto', powdery pink edged white, and the hybrids 'Brigadoon', pink, 'Satan's Robe', scarlet, 'Debbie', carmine, and 'Bonnie Marie', pale pink. The eye-catching sprays of the miniature, many-petalled varieties 'Little Bit', red and pink, and 'Jingle Bells', pink and red, created a lot of interest.

Many plants were submitted to the committee and the following received awards:

First-class certificates: Rhododendron fulvum, pink, from Mr R. N. Stephenson Clarke, Haywards Heath; and Narcissus 'Loch Hope', yellow and orange, from Mr J. S. B. Lea, Stourport-on-Severn. Awards of Merit: Iris japonica hybrid (subject to clonal name), pale violet, from Dr J. Ellis, Bourne End; Aechmea racinae, red and yellow, and Selaginella emiliana aurea, yellow-green foliage, from Mr L. Maurice Mason, King's Lynn; Camellia reticulata 'William Hertrich', light crimson, from Mr N. T. Holman, Truro; Primula edgeworthii X irregularis, violet with yellow eye, from Mr J. C. H. Templer, Chichester; Pieris 'Grayswood' (subject to verification of name), white, and a unnamed Rhododendron hybrid (subject to identification), carmine, from the Crown Estate Commissioners, Windsor; Rhododendron oleifolium, pink, from Mr R. N. Stephenson Clarke, Haywards Heath; R. permakoense X 'Blue Tit', lilac, from G. Reuthe Ltd, Keston; and R. 'Treetops', pink, from Lord Aberconway and the National Trust, Bodnant.

The daffodil competition has a large number of entries and makes a colourful display across one section of the hall.

In the open classes for new varieties Mr J. S. B. Lea, Stourport-on-Severn, won first prize and a silver-gilt Simmonds medal for 12 varieties raised by the exhibitor, all blooms in superb condition; Mr G. W. Tarry, Ness, first prize for six varieties raised by exhibitor; Mr N. Burr, Uckfield, first prize for three varieties raised by exhibitor, and Mr J. W. Blanchard, Blandford, first prize for six hybrid miniature narcissi raised by exhibitor.

In the open classes for miniature narcissi: Mr Blanchard won three species class and Mrs Hylda Oxton, Colchester, three hybrids class. In open class for collection of 12 varieties, representing not fewer than three divisions, Mr J. S. B. Lea won first prize and the Devonshire Trophy. In amateur classes for collections, Mr J. W. Blanchard won with six varieties, three stems of each, and Mr N. Burr with six varieties, one stem of each. The best blooms were: Division 1, 'Meldrum', deep yellow, from Mr J. S. B. Lea; division 2, 'Estremadura', yellow and orange, from Mr N. Burr; division 3, 'Cairntoul', white and orange, from Mr J. S. B. Lea; division 4, 'Unique', white and yellow, from Mr. Hylda Oxton; and the best bloom overall in the competitive classes was 'Loch Hope', yellow and orange, from Mr Burr, who also received a Simmonds medal for this achievement.

The competitive classes for magnolias and ornamental plants from the open includes some magnificent specimen sprays. Leading prizewinners were Anne, Countess of Rosse, and the National Trust, Nymans, who won the class for three distinct magnolias with *Magnolia sargentiana* 'Robusta', M 'Michael Rosse' and M 'Thomas Messel', as well as two other classes, and Mr R. S. N. Stephenson Clarke, Haywards Heath, also a winner of three classes.

The spring show of the British Iris Society is small but contains some excellent plants. It is predominantly a decorative show and Mr S. Linnegar, Reading, the society's secretary, received the Hayward Vase for obtaining most points in cut iris flower arrangement classes.

The show is open today from 10 to 5.

Tear gas used to lift siege by farmers of EEC headquarters

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, March 31

Riot police used tear gas here tonight to disperse several thousand farmers, mainly from France and Italy, who had besieged the headquarters of the EEC's Council of Ministers in support of their demands for higher farm prices.

Inside the building Mr Gerrit Braks, the Dutch Minister of Agriculture and chairman of the council, had earlier deplored the belligerence of the demonstrators and said that the ministerial talks on prices might have to be called off if the violence continued.

There were more demonstrators than yesterday when a French farmer was knocked down and killed by a car, an incident that may have inflamed emotions. The farmers taunted the rows of police, hurling salvoes of rotten eggs, vegetables, stones and bottles. A policeman was hit in the eye, and a car damaged.

Commenting on the violence, Mr Peter Walker, the British Agriculture Minister, said: "I very much regret the demonstration became rowdy and out of hand and that innocent people and policemen were attacked. There is absolutely no need for such demonstrations. Nor is there any chance of influencing a group of ministers by throwing stones and eggs".

The farmers are demanding an increase of more than 15 per cent in farm support prices, which they claim is the minimum necessary to offset the effect of inflation on their production costs. The latest offer, presented tonight by the European Commission, would give them about 9 per cent on average.

In practice, however, the support prices in Denmark, Ireland, France, Italy and Greece would be raised by additional amounts ranging from 2.5 per cent to 9 per cent as the result of a series of "green" currency devaluations, also being proposed by the Commission.

The Commission's original proposal was for an average price rise of 7.8 per cent, but it had become clear that this was unacceptably low to the great majority of member states. The Commission's position was weakened last week when the European Parliament voted for a 12 per cent increase.

Under pressure from member states, the Commission has also emasculated its proposals for imposing financial penalties on farmers who overproduce and contribute to surpluses. The main casualty is a proposed £45 a tonne "super tax" on excess milk production, which has now been withdrawn.

Mr Walker looked likely tonight to put up the stiffest opposition to the new package of measures. His main objection was not to the proposed price increase but to a 3.4 per cent revaluation of the "green" pound which would cut British farmers' prices by the same amount. This, he said, was unacceptable.

Mr Walker also rejected a proposed 25 per cent cut in the 13 pence per lb subsidy on butter consumption in Britain, which is financed entirely out of Community funds and is worth about £65m a year. He also objected to a cut in the existing suckler cow subsidy.

There was one good point in the new proposals from Britain's point of view, Mr Walker said, and that was the provision for continuing the special British system for supporting beef producers. Under the Commission's earlier proposal this would have been phased out.

It is estimated that the new proposals, if adopted, would add £195m to Community expenditure this year and a further £570m in 1982. Coupled with the effect of any prices agreed next year this extra cost could take the Community close to the limit of its revenue resources.

Moscow alarmed by Polish party's loss of authority

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 31

Though the Soviet Union is clearly relieved that a general strike in Poland has been averted, the terms of the settlement last night between the independent trade union movement Solidarity and the Polish Government must be seen here as deeply disturbing, and will add to the Soviet conviction that the Polish Communist Party has lost control of the situation.

Significantly, the Soviet media have made no comment on the settlement beyond a one-sentence announcement last night by Tass that Solidarity had decided to call off the strike after talks with the Government. That was the only mention of the decision to appear in this evening's edition of *Izvestia*.

The terms of the agreement, which will probably not be made public here, fly in the face of everything the Soviet press has been saying for the past week. The Government concessions to the union contradict the strong pressure believed to have been put on the Polish authorities to take a tough line with Solidarity and the dissidents.

In particular the Russians will be unhappy with the agreement that those responsible for the incident in Bydgoszcz, which sparked off the latest crisis, will be put on trial and punished if found guilty. The Russians have publicly stated that the police acted legally and have blamed Solidarity for using the incident to whip up tension.

The Russians believe that any criticism of the security forces in a communist state sets a dangerous precedent. And given the widespread rumours that some third force was responsible for the order to the Bydgoszcz police, they will not welcome a public inquiry bringing such allegations into the open.

Another point of the agreement that Moscow will find hard to accept is the decision to set up a commission to study the case for an independent union for Poland's farmers. The Russians already see Solidarity, representing industrial workers, developing into a dangerous political opposition to the Communist Party. They do not want any further erosion of the party's authority in the countryside—especially as the Warsaw Government had earlier stood firm in its refusal to register a rural branch of Solidarity.

The decision to pay the strikers for the four hours they did not work last week will be taken as an affront by the Russians, who are already obliged to offer their western neighbour substantial hard currency loans to help it out of its economic quagmire. The Russians have spoken of the great economic damage the strikes have caused in Poland, and will view the decision not to withhold wages as a virtual incentive to further strikes.

The fact that must worry the Russians above all is that industrial peace appears to have been bought at the price of a further loss of face and authority by the party. The Soviet Union has made its stand clear over the past week: Tass said Solidarity was directed by counter-revolutionaries and was making instigatory demands it knew the Government—and by implication the Russians also—could not accept.

But the Polish Government ignored these signals of Moscow's anger in what looks like clear defiance of the Soviet warnings given to the Polish leadership after the Soviet Party congress earlier this month. This may be taken here as a weakening of Warsaw's commitment at the time to "turn the course of events".

If such "defiance" by both the Government and unions is allowed to continue, Soviet threats and warnings may cease to have any effect. Indeed the Soviet press has already levelled every conceivable charge against Solidarity and there is little more left to say. Given the obvious Soviet reluctance to intervene, these ever more ominous press comments are beginning to sound like someone crying wolf.

The Russians will also not be pleased by the decision at the plenum to hold the party congress in July, in spite of Soviet pressure for a postponement. The Russians have already had a worrying taste of the public criticisms levelled at senior party officials during the plenum, and believe such open divisions within the party can only weaken what little authority it still has.

Tass did not report any of the sharp debate at the plenum. Instead the Soviet papers today reported at length the warnings of Mr Kazimierz Barcikowski, a hardline former Deputy Prime Minister, that Solidarity was pushing the country along the road of "creeping counter-revolution".

Reflecting the Soviet view, Mr Barcikowski was quoted saying yesterday that the structure and survival of Poland were at stake.

"It is no longer a matter of pressure being put on authority but a direct struggle against our party and the existing state authority, against socialism. This is a struggle for power. It is imperative for all our party and the part of our society which is aware of the danger to realize this threat," *Pravda* quoted him saying.

The Russians believe that unless there is a showdown with Solidarity and leading dissidents are arrested, the threat of further strikes will recur, with the Government gradually surrendering more and more power to the unions.

In such a situation Moscow sees the divisions within the party increasing, making it hard for the party to reassert its authority. But they also fear that the hardliners on the Central Committee will be ousted at the July congress. It was to prevent the election of a liberal majority in the Czechoslovak Central Committee that the Russians invaded when they did in 1968.

For the moment the Russians see no alternative but to accept the new agreement with Solidarity. But Poland will be an important topic of conversation with Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, who arrives here on Thursday for three days' talks on arms control in Europe. He will make it clear to Moscow again that any Soviet intervention in Poland would immediately scuttle any further prospect of agreement on limiting nuclear weapons in Europe, something the Russians now consider an urgent priority.

'Die Welt' editor dismissed

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, March 31

Embittered and resigned, the editor and journalists of the conservative daily *Die Welt* parted company today after losing their battle to preserve the comparatively liberal style of their paper.

The dismissal of Herr Peter Boenisch as editor ends a two-and-a-half-year phase during which *Die Welt*, the flagship of the right-wing Springer press, developed into a more lively, readable and open-minded paper.

From tomorrow, he will be replaced by a directorate of three leading right-wing journalists who are expected to steer *Die Welt* back on to an ultra-conservative course.

Herr Matthias Walden, the chief political commentator of the Springer press, will be co-publisher with Herr Axel Springer, the owner. Dr Herbert Kremp, a former editor and later Peking correspondent, will return as joint editor with Herr Wilfried Hertz-Eichenrode, the home editor.

Herr Springer's plans, and the journalists' opposition, were first disclosed on February 4 in *The Times*. Angrily Herr Springer denounced the report as speculation and distortion of the truth.

The announcement ended a struggle by the journalists against their publisher which was unparalleled in the history of the West German press. The staff felt it an offence to their professional dignity to be expected to support a line which most found distasteful. After seeing 14 editors in 13 years they also wanted peace and continuity.

Herr Boenisch, who had inspired exceptional devotion and enthusiasm among the staff, was given a standing ovation at an earlier editorial meeting.

An announcement by the Springer publishing company said he had been recalled to the company's headquarters in West Berlin for other duties.

Another boy found dead near Atlanta

Atlanta, March 29.—The body of a black boy was found this afternoon in the Chattahoochee river, the twenty-first black child to be found dead in the Atlanta area in the past 20 months.

"The only thing we know is that we have located the body of a young black male that meets criteria of those found recently", Fulton County Police said.

Local residents found the body about 3.30 pm while boating on the river, Police Sergeant Denny Hendrix said. The body was clad only in underwear and was not decomposed.

Members of the police task force that has been investigating the rash of slayings and disappearances of black children since July, 1979, were called to the scene.

Asked to estimate the age of the victim, Sergeant Hendrix said he was "more than 10 years old and less than 20".

The body found today was the eighth discovered in south-west Fulton County and the third found in Area Rivers.—AP.

Warders taken hostage in Sicilian prison

Messina, Sicily, March 31.—Six warders were taken hostage today by prisoners at Gazzi jail near here, informed sources said.

The prison was immediately surrounded by police. The warders were believed to be held in the prison infirmary.

The prison revolt was led by three men, armed with hand-made weapons, who have asked to speak to court officials. There have been more than 10 prison revolts in Italy since the beginning of the year, and hostages have been taken on a number of occasions.—Agence France-Presse.

Nato group backs US on arms talks with Russia

From Frederick Bonnart
Brussels, March 31

No date was set for negotiations with the Soviet Union on arms control at today's meeting of Nato's special consultative group in Brussels.

The group, which is to prepare the allied position in the negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union on theatre nuclear forces, was set up after the December 1979 decision to deploy American Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Europe to counter the growing Soviet arsenal of theatre nuclear missiles.

Today's meeting was the first since the Reagan Administration took office. Allied officials emphasized that it gave its full support to the "two-track" decision of December 1979 of producing and deploying the missiles while offering to negotiate their limitation and reduction.

The officials point out that this decision tied a military modernization programme to a political undertaking to negotiate, and that the whole of this process is continuing on schedule.

Although the Soviet Union had initially rejected negotiations, allied solidarity and firmness in adhering to the decision, the Nato diplomats state, resulted in initial preliminary talks in Geneva last October.

It was appreciated that the new United States administration would need some months to define its arms control policy. However, the growing internal pressure in European allied countries, particularly in those where the missiles are to be deployed—Britain, West Germany, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands—has been made clear to the Americans during visits to Washington by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the British Prime Minister, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, and others.

According to Nato officials, this feeling is fully understood in Washington and there is, therefore, no question of delaying arms control negotiations on theatre nuclear forces while the new American proposals on strategic arms limitation (Salt) are being worked out.

Nevertheless, observers here understand that the European allies will continue to press for a date particularly at the Rome meeting of Nato's foreign ministers in May.

There is unanimity, according to Nato diplomats, for the rejection of President Brezhnev's proposal for a moratorium as this would confirm the present Soviet superiority in theatre nuclear forces.

Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity union leader (left), showing signs of strain at a press conference after the decision to suspend a threatened general strike.

Warsaw Pact manoeuvres extended

Berlin, March 31.—Warsaw Pact manoeuvres involving Polish and other Soviet block troops are continuing in East Germany and along Poland's Baltic coast, the East German news agency ADN said today.

The report appeared to deny statements from Western sources which said that field exercises had finished in Poland two days ago. ADN gave no indication when the manoeuvres—extended last week just before the four-hour warning strike in Poland on Friday—would finally end.

It said that Polish jet fighter aircraft landed today at an East German military airfield as part of a radical regrouping of forces fighting a reinforced "enemy". Air and sea "battles" continued today, with the marine manoeuvres taking place along the Polish coastline, it added.

Western sources in Bonn had earlier believed that the field exercises in Poland were over, although coordination with Poland's military was continuing.

East Germany has been the Soviet block's harshest critic of reform in Poland since last summer's strikes on the Baltic coast and also has given fullest reports on the manoeuvres.

ADN said at the weekend that troops involved in the manoeuvres from the beginning had been pulled back to barracks but were replaced with fresh forces.—UPI.

No imment threat: The State Department said today that although military activities by Warsaw Pact troops were continuing in and around Poland, there appeared to be no imminent threat against the people of that country (David Cross writes from Washington).

Administration officials have said privately since the Polish workers decided to suspend there threatened strike the situation in and around Poland is less tense than at the end of last week and during the weekend.

Solidarity agrees to formula for peace

Gdansk, March 31.—Leaders of the Solidarity free trade union voted formally tonight to call off its plans for a general strike, the union announced.

In a vote by the union's national consultative commission, 25 delegates voted to call off the strike, four voted against and six abstained.

Mr Lech Walesa, leader of Solidarity, defended his compromise agreement with the Government which involved the suspension of the strike planned to start today.

Mr Walesa was said to have come under fire from rank and file members of the union who wanted the strike, called over the beatings of three Solidarity members in Bydgoszcz on March 19, to go ahead.

Sources inside the meeting that was closed to reporters said members were angry because Mr Walesa, who emerged as the leader when Solidarity was formed last August, was getting too much power.

One of the men taken to hospital after the incident, Mr Jan Rulewski, Solidarity leader in Bydgoszcz, said in a letter to the delegates: "We did not win anything by the agreement... It is a disgrace to the union and has returned us to 1970."

Mr Walesa replied to his critics by saying a majority of workers had approved the accord.

Asked if Poles could now sleep quietly, he replied: "Of course. There is no other way to follow. I think that commonsense will win." He said further confrontations with the Government should be avoided.

"We have to stop them (confrontations) and to sort out the agreements we have reached. There were so many agreements reached that it would be difficult to read all of them", he said.

Leaders of the independent union of farmers formed during a meeting last month in Poznan bitterly criticized the agreement with the Government which, they said, did not provide for immediate registration of their solidarity-style union. The accord provides for a government commision to study the issue. The union had sought registration by early April—AP and UPI.

Mr Trudeau offers to let court decide

From John Best.
Ottawa, March 31

Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, today offered to allow the Supreme Court of Canada to decide on the validity of his plan to patriate the country's constitution from Westminster.

His carefully qualified undertaking came after the Canadian constitutional debate had taken a new twist today when the Newfoundland Court of Appeal ruled unanimously in favour of the provinces and against the position of the federal Government.

Mr Trudeau, replying to Conservative MPs, said his Liberal Government would refrain from "pressing" the patriation proposal on the British Parliament providing the Canadian Opposition would allow the proposal to come to a vote in Ottawa.

Canadian Conservatives have been blocking passage of the Government's proposals through a series of procedural moves. Mr Trudeau rejected demands to withdraw the controversial plan. Nor would be agree not to forward the plan to Westminster for possible first reading once it was approved in Ottawa, but he indicated that this point was negotiable.

Mr Trudeau said the resolution should be approved in Canada by Easter Monday to pave the way for Supreme Court consideration. If the judgment went against the Government, the proposal would be dropped.

The Newfoundland court had ruled that the federal Government required the consent of the provinces if it wanted to alter the constitution.

British delay: To avoid any clash between the debates in Ottawa and those in Westminster on the patriation of the Canadian constitution, with its attached amending formula and charter of rights, the British Government is delaying its reply to the Commons Select Committee (Our Political Correspondent writes).

The reply, which challenges the whole legal basis of the select committee's main argument—that Westminster still has a guardianship role in relation to the federal structure of Canada—has been ready for several weeks.

It has been decided to hold back the reply until the debates in the Canadian House of Commons and the Senate have been completed, probably just before Easter.

Mr Francis Pym, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Leader of the House, has indicated that the British Government is not averse to having a debate in the Commons on the select committee's report.

The select committee, under the chairmanship of Sir Anthony Kershaw, Conservative MP for Stroud, will meet tomorrow in private to consider the response of the Canadian Federal Government to its report. This reply complains of the inadequacy of the evidence put before the committee, rejects the main conclusion, and states that he report, because of fallacious arguments, contains "fatal flaws".

Key papers on El Salvador 'forged by CIA'

Bonn, March 31.—A former American secret agent said today that key documents used by the State Department to suggest the Soviet Union organized arms deliveries to guerrillas in El Salvador were forgeries.

Mr Philip Agee, a former employee of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in Latin America, alleged the CIA faked the papers and arranged for their "discovery" by a visiting American diplomat in San Salvador.

"I think the CIA prepared false documents and inserted them during their daily work with the Salvadorean security forces, among documents that really were captured", he told a press conference.—Reuter.

Ronald Biggs is refused bail in Barbados

Bridgetown, March 31.—Ronald Biggs was denied bail today as formal proceedings began on a request by Britain to extradite him. He is wanted in Britain for escaping from prison while serving a 30-year sentence for robbing the London-Glasgow mail train in 1963.

The hearing before a magistrate was adjourned until tomorrow and Mr Biggs was put in a Barbados prison for the night.

"If I had a choice I wouldn't go back to Britain", he told the court.

Asked what guarantee he could give that he would return if released, he replied: "I have given only what I can give and that is my word."—AP.

France will renew credit to Poland

From a Correspondent
Paris, March 31

The French Government will grant Poland 4,000m francs credit (about £362m) for 1981, the same amount it granted last year.

Confirmation of the grant was made after talks between President Giscard d'Estaing and Mr Mieczyslaw Jagielski, a Polish Deputy Prime Minister, at the Elysée Palace today.

The hour-long talks, which Mr Jagielski described as "very interesting and very profitable", concerned the pressing economic problems that Poland is facing.

Mr René Monory, the French Economic Affairs Minister, established yesterday the form of economic aid to Poland. This aid comes in three parts.

First, a new credit has been agreed to help Poland pay interests on its debts for the next two terms. Second, a credit of 900m francs has been agreed to export steel, textile and chemical products to Poland during 1981. Third, 1,500m francs have been earmarked as credit for food products from France during this year.

Poland already owes about £8,500m to the West, and the financing of further credit shows considerable good will on behalf of France.

The French President indicated that a "special procedure" was being examined in France to help Poland face its current food shortage problems.

During the Elyse talks, Mr Jagielski also informed M Giscard d'Estaing about the present situation of his country and the results of the meeting between his Government and Mr Lech Walesa the Solidarity leader.

"This meeting has once again confirmed that France remains a faithful friend of Poland", Mr Jagielski said.

Talks on debt, page 17

Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, with Herr Schmidt in Bonn.

Herr Schmidt links aid to restraint

From Our Own Correspondent
Bonn, March 31

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, made it clear today that he would stop the flow of West German credits to Poland if the Polish Army were used to restore order by force in the country.

He said that President Reagan, with whom he spoke on the telephone shortly before the attempted assassination as well as President Giscard d'Estaing of France and other Western leaders agreed with his position.

It was the first time that the Chancellor has spoken of breaking off aid to Poland if the social unrest were resolved by force from within rather than by a Soviet invasion.

Since West Germany is Poland's biggest creditor—at present Poland's debt to Bonn amounts to £2,000m—his statement amounts to considerable pressure against any violent suppression of the free trade unions.

In a joint press conference with Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, today, the Chancellor said that if force were used in Poland "credits would not only cease to flow but the whole world would change".

He said he and Mr Haughey had agreed to help Poland as "long as force is not used, either from outside or from within".

The Chancellor repeated his statement at a conference of Social Democratic workers' representatives, adding that aid to Poland was prompted by "European solidarity". If things went badly in Poland the trouble could spread to the rest of Europe, he said.

West Germany, for whom a tragic ending to the Solidarity movement in Poland would be a political disaster, has been helping the country with export guarantees and credits. This year alone it had granted guarantees of nearly £100m for food aid.

Restoring rule of law in equatorial Guinea

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, March 31

Colonel Teodoro Obyang Nguema, President of Equatorial Guinea, took an important step last week towards fulfilling his promise to demilitarize the Government and establish the rule of law in his small African country, with the appointment of the first civilian member of his Cabinet. Mr Emiliano Buale was made Minister of Agriculture.

Diplomatic sources in Madrid said the appointment was announced last Monday in Bata, the chief city of the mainland part of Equatorial Guinea. Mr Buale is an agricultural engineer, a rarity in a country from which virtually everyone with higher education—and many without—fled during the despotic rule of the dictator, Francisco Macias Nguema.

Colonel Obyang Nguema, who came to power in August, 1979, in a *coup d'etat*, immediately sought the aid of Spain, the former colonial power, to rebuild his country from the economic and political ruins left by his predecessor.

He told his people early last month that the Government was drafting a constitution and that he intended to diminish the political role of the armed forces gradually.

One of the first measures to that end was a decree, published early this month, which obliges military men holding government posts to declare by the end of this week whether they prefer to return to strictly military duties or retain their jobs in the administration. In the latter case they must accept an extended leave of absence from the armed forces.

While there is not even a semblance of democratic institutions so far, 19 months after the colonel took over, diplomats who knew the country under President Macias say there is a great deal more freedom under the present regime and no evidence of the fear of arbitrary personal decisions which was widespread.

In contrast to the gradual breakdown of public services and the collapse of the economy under Mr Macias, there are faint but noticeable signs that the country is climbing back to the cultural and economic levels from which it slipped during the 11 years of the dictator's absolute and bloodthirsty hold on power—a period in which hundreds of dissenters were killed and at least one-third of the population, estimated at 600,000, fled into exile.

The country's only newspaper, *Ebano*, now appears weekly. Regular publishing, except for occasional decrees and the like, had ground to a halt under the self-styled "man of steel", Mr Macias.

With the help of about a hundred and twenty Spanish advisers, the administration is becoming more organized. Late last year Equatorial Guinea was divided into six provinces—two on the island of Francisco Macias (formerly Fernando Poo), south of the Bight of Biafra, and four in the mainland part of the country (Rio Muni). Moves have been made to decentralize government functions.

Schools and medical centres, which almost ceased to operate altogether in the latter days of the Macias regime, have begun to function again.

A number of Equatorial Guinean students are studying in Spain on scholarship grants, in order to fill the country's crying need for all kinds of skills.

2.30 pm, March 30, President Reagan is shot in the chest. Breakfast time, March 31, after major surgery, the President puts his signature (right) to an Act of Congress, on his breakfast tray, for legislation stopping automatic dairy farm subsidy increases. For comparison, see below his signature on Inauguration Day.

Who's in charge?

Bush and Meese in control after Haig misjudgment

From Patrick Brogan and David Cross
Washington, March 31

In the heat of the moment yesterday afternoon, Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, announced: "As of now, I am in control at the White House." When he said it, live on television from the White House press room, the President was in the operating theatre and the Vice-President in an aircraft returning from Texas.

Senior members of the President's staff were at the hospital and the Cabinet had gathered in the White House Situation room, where Mr Haig had "taken charge". He was very tense and his voice was barely under control when he made the statement—the *New York Times* said that "his voice was trembling and his face perspiring".

The phrase may come back to haunt him. The first mini-crisis of the Reagan Administration occurred a week ago, when Mr Reagan appointed Vice-President Bush to be chairman of a "crisis management committee", instead of Mr Haig. The Secretary of State expressed his dissatisfaction in public, and Mr Bush's formal appointment amounted to a formal reprimand of the Secretary of State by the President.

Now there is a real crisis, and quite without authority—gratuitously—Mr Haig announced that he was in charge. He claimed that his authority derived from a line of authority running from President to Vice-President to Secretary of State. Later, a White House press spokesman said that the President had recently issued a directive governing control of national security, under which authority in an emergency would be exercised first by the Vice-President, then by the Secretary of Defence.

Mr Reagan's senior staff, notably his counsellor, Mr Edwin Meese, and Mr James Baker, his Chief of Staff, were most unhappy at Mr Haig's conduct over the proposal to make Mr Bush chairman of the crisis committee. His assumption of authority yesterday is not going to please them.

Today both White House and State Department spokesmen denied there had been any friction between Mr Haig and his colleagues.

Mr Haig's spokesman conceded that Mr Meese and Mr Baker had not been told in advance about Mr Haig's statement, but he insisted that both men thought later he had done the right thing.

Explaining why Mr Haig had thought it necessary to tell the world that he was in charge, the spokesman said Mr Haig had wanted to tell the American people and its allies that Washington was functioning normally and was not "unmindful" of the delicate situation in Poland.

The Government's official line today is that Mr Reagan is making a rapid and complete recovery, and is exercising his office. It is already apparent that he is not. A President cannot administer the Government of the United States from hospital.

Mr Andries van Agt, the Prime Minister of The Netherlands, is in town and was to have lunch with the President. He will have lunch with Mr Bush instead.

The day-to-day running of the Government will probably devolve upon Mr Meese. The Reagan Administration is a more collegial affair than most, with Cabinet officers and such officials as Mr Meese reaching decisions by discussion and consensus. This will have to continue during Mr Reagan's incapacity, but there is bound to be a hiatus, compounded by the resentment of Mr Haig's colleagues at his behaviour.

It is a desperately inconvenient moment for the Administration. Mr Reagan was marching forward, foot and horse, with his Democratic opponents in extreme disarray. His budget proposals were doing well in Congress, particularly in the Senate

In the House of Representatives, the Democrats are putting up a spirited rearguard action, attempting to save some social programmes from the wreckage, retreating and regrouping under Mr Reagan's ceaseless attack.

The American legislative process requires a President's constant attention: Mr Carter's greatest failure was his inability to realize this. Mr Reagan has spent far more time cajoling Congressmen than Mr Carter did—telephoning them, having them and their wives to the White House, making speeches urging various powerful interest groups to support his proposals.

He delivered just such a speech to a trade union meeting yesterday, just before he was

The question is whether the Administration can keep the initiative, whether "momentum"—that magical quality that plays such an essential role in American politics—can be kept up. We were assured this morning by a White House spokesman that "the White House never missed a beat", that the Government of the United States continued uninterrupted.

No one really believes that, but in the event it was not important. The Russians did not invade Poland yesterday

It is now clear that Mr Reagan will be wholly recovered in two or three months. This intervening period is unquestionably the greatest challenge that a new Administration could possibly have to face in peacetime.

Overseas trip: The State Department announced today that, in spite of the attempt on Mr Reagan's life, Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, would be going ahead with his first overseas visit to the Middle East and Europe later this week.

A department spokesman told reporters that no change in his projected week-long trip was required because the Administration in Washington was now functioning normally.

Mr Haig leaves Washington on Friday night for talks in Cairo, Tel Aviv, Amman, Riyadh, Madrid and London. The main purpose of his trip is to discuss general security in the Middle East and South West Asia, as well as the future of peace efforts between Israel and its Arab neighbours.

America's First Lady arriving to see her wounded husband at George Washington University Hospital yesterday.

The Reagan family

'We have to stop this garbage'

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles, March 31

"My reaction is fury and rage that in this country this kind of garbage is still going on", President Reagan's elder daughter, Maureen Reagan, said before she and other members of her family left Los Angeles by air late last night to visit their wounded father. "We have got to stop it—right now."

Miss Reagan, aged 39, and her brother Michael, aged 37—children from Mr Reagan's first marriage to Jane Wyman, the actress—and Patti Davis, the Reagans' youngest daughter, who is an actress, have arrived in Washington.

The President's younger son, Ron Reagan, aged 23, left the Joffrey Ballet Company in Nebraska shortly after the shooting to return to Washington.

In Los Angeles the reaction to the assassination attempt was similar to that in the rest of the country—horror and shock. Hollywood's big night, the Academy Awards, which was due to take place on Monday, was postponed for 24 hours. It was only the third time in the academy's 53-year history that the event has been postponed.

Lending irony to the situation was the planned appearance of Mr Reagan on pre-taped videotape at the start of the live Oscar awards ceremony, which is beamed on television around the world.

The White House today will decide whether the message from the President will be shown on tonight's show.

The show's producer, Norman Jewison, explained: "We just felt that with the attempted assassination of the President this was not the time to go on the air with a celebration of films. It's not a fun time."

The Oscar ceremony was last postponed in 1968 after the assassination of Dr Martin Luther King.

Mr Jewison and the show's host, Johnny Carson, were frantically rewriting the script for the programme, which was packed with jokes about Mr Reagan, a former actor and past president of the Screen Actors Guild, winning the Presidency.

Unless there is a drastic change in the President's condition, the Oscar show will go on tonight, the academy president, Fay Kanin, said. She felt it would be worth while for the nation to see and hear the taped Reagan message. "It would help everyone heave a sigh of relief."

In Southern California Reagan family members did not try to mask their feelings about the shootings.

Maureen Reagan, appearing to be on the verge of tears, said she had decided to go to Washington because the assassination target was "my President, whether he's my father or not".

"I'm not prepared to accept this", she said. "I hope what I'm feeling is the kind of rage other Americans are feeling. Something has to be done."

The President's brother Neil, aged 72, said angrily from his home in San Diego: "What the hell is the country coming to? He's never harmed anyone in his life. I'd like to harm someone right now.

"I blame it all on the judiciary. You can get away with so much. You can get up in front of the bench with a sad story, and boom—be right back on the street."

Michael Reagan, outside his home in the San Fernando Valley section of Los Angeles, said that "The whole family, me, my wife and my sisters", had decided to go to Washington, so that "when my father opens his eyes and comes out of sedation we will be there.

"This mission is really a mission of love—love for Ronald Reagan. A lot of things have been written about our family and our family's independence; one thing about us, we love Ronald Reagan and we love Nancy Reagan."

In Las Vegas Frank Sinatra, a close friend of Mr Reagan who raised $6m for the Reagan campaign last year, cancelled his performance at Caesar's Palace. His spokesman said Mr Sinatra was "too overcome by shock to even talk about it".

2.31 pm, March 30, Mr James Brady, aged 40, Press Secretary, lies wounded on the pavement. He sustained greater injuries than any other victim of the shooting. Mr Jody Powell, his predecessor under President Carter, sent him a bulletproof vest when he got the job as a joke. Pinned to it was a note: "I hope you never need this."

The violent society

Gun lobby still riding high

From Michael Leapman
New York, March 31

Someone is shot dead in the United States every 48 minutes. Guns are the second most common cause of unnatural death after the motor car.

Of the 20,000 murders committed in this country every year, half are by the gun. There are about 50 million handguns in the United States and five million new ones are manufactured every year, sold by 165,000 firearm dealers.

The statistics are terrifying; but they do not sway the firmly entrenched opponents of gun control in Washington. They regard the freedom to bear arms as an inalienable right of Americans, and point to the Second Amendment to the Constitution for textual support.

It reads: "A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

Attempts to place some control on that right, at both the federal and local level, have met stout resistance from the National Rifle Association, the powerful Washington group lobbying against gun control. The resulting legislation has been largely ineffective.

In 1968, after the assassinations of Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, a federal Gun Control Act was passed. It banned the sale of guns by mail order and forbade sales to felons, mental patients and drug addicts—provisions which have proved hard to enforce.

Even this is too tough for many. The Republican Party's manifesto for last year's election suggested a repeal of some provisions of the 1968 Act. Mr Reagan supported it wholeheartedly.

"Mandatory sentences for commission of armed felonies are the most effective means to deter abuse", the platform stated. "We therefore support congressional initiatives to remove those provisions of the Gun Control Act of 1968 that do not significantly impact on crime but serve rather to restrain the law-abiding citizen in his legitimate use of firearms."

The platform went on to suggest that the wider use of capital punishment would be a more effective deterrent to major crimes than gun control.

Washington DC, where the President was shot, has one of the two or three toughest local gun laws in the country. Under it, private ownership of hand guns is almost banned.

In New York, one of the dozen most violent American cities, the authorities have placed warning posters on prominent sites boasting of the ruthlessness of the local laws. Anyone caught carrying an unlicensed gun here is automatically charged with a felony.

Hand Gun Control Incorporated is a Washington lobby group which favours strict laws against weapons possession. Its chairman is Mr Nelson Shields whose son was shot to death in San Francisco some years ago.

"It is virtually impossible to protect the President of the United States with 60 million hand guns in circulation and another two million flooding the market every year", he said today.

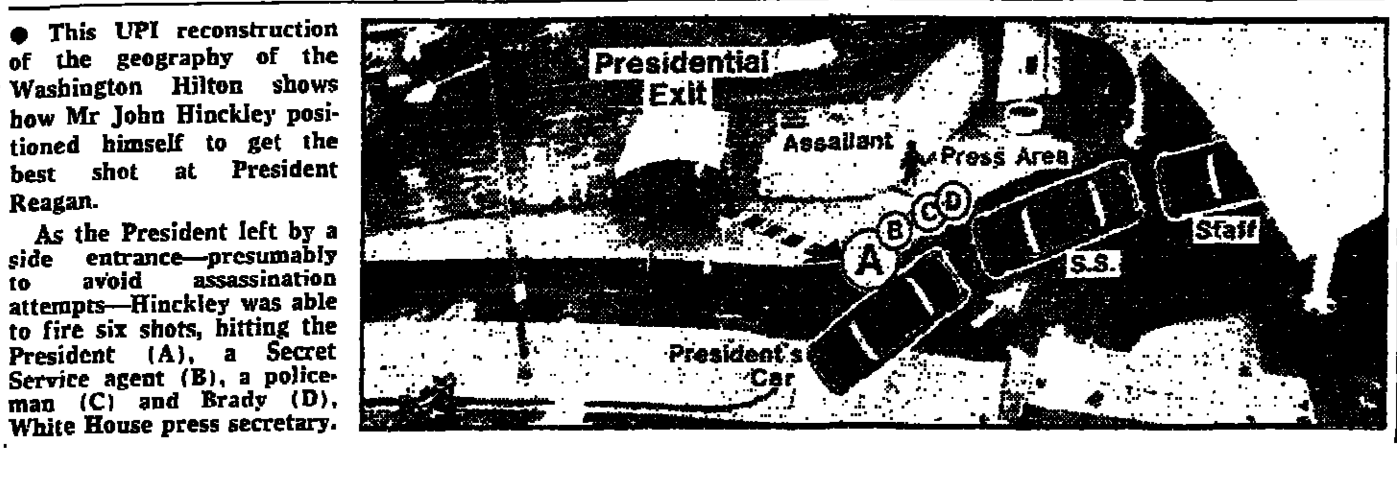
"An attempt on the President's life was almost predictable and that is a tragedy all of us must share . . . "We need the strength and will of Congress to enact legislation already introduced in both houses", he said.

There is little chance of the legislation to which he refers, which would strengthen gun control, getting an early hearing. The Senate, with its Republican majority, is philosophically against it.

Mr John Snyder, of the Citizens' Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, said in Washington today that, although he expected a flurry of statements in favour of gun control in the next few weeks, pressure would die down after a while. That is certainly the usual pattern. It happened most recently after the killing of John Lennon in New York in December.

Mr Snyder said that, with the present line-up of political forces in Washington, it was more likely that a Bill sponsored by the National Rifle Association to weaken controls would be passed.

"After all, Mr Reagan is the most pro-gun President we have had in many years", he said.



● **This UPI reconstruction of the geography of the Washington Hilton shows how Mr John Hinckley positioned himself to get the best shot at President Reagan.**

As the President left by a side entrance—presumably to avoid assassination attempts—Hinckley was able to fire six shots, hitting the President (A), a Secret Service agent (B), a policeman (C) and Brady (D), White House press secretary.

'We are indignant' Mr Brezhnev says

By Our Foreign Staff

Leaders of communist and non-communist nations of the world joined yesterday to condemn the assassination attempt on President Reagan. The White House was inundated with messages of condolence.

President Brezhnev sent a telegram of sympathy to President Reagan expressing his indignation at the attempt

The message, published by the news agency Tass, read: "We have learned with indignation about an attempt on your life. We firmly condemn that criminal act. On behalf of the Soviet leadership and on my own behalf I wish you, Mr President, a full and early recovery."

The assassination attempt was discussed with shock and concern by many Russians yesterday who heard some of the details on Soviet radio.

Mr Zhao Ziyang, Prime Minister of China, sent a telegram to Mr Reagan: "Shocked to learn of your being wounded . . . I wish you a speedy recovery."

Senator Edward Kennedy said: "My family has been touched by violence. Violence and hatred have no place in our society or in our country. They know no partisanship, they know no party, they know no rationality. Yet we see it continue in our society and in our country.

"With our prayers for those who have been wounded . . . must go our resolution to rid our society of violence and to commit ourselves . . . to eliminate hatred in our society."

At the Vatican, the Pope said he had learned with deep sorrow of the senseless and violent act. He prayed for Mr Reagan's recovery and denounced in a telegram "all manifestation of violence and terrorism and every act that violates human dignity in any individual".

In London, Prince Philip addressed an international conference on human values, which opened with a prayer for Mr Reagan.

In the House of Commons, the Speaker, Mr George Thomas, said he had sent a telegram of good wishes to President Reagan.

In Bonn, Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, said he was horrified at the assassination attempt.

In Tehran, Ayatollah Khomeini said Iran would shed no tears for President Reagan because the Islamic revolutionary regime is no longer dependent on the United States.

The Voice of America, page 14

Mr John Hinckley Senior, the suspect's father, leaving his Denver, Colorado, home with a Secret Service agent.

The Hinckley family

Gunman suspect was neo-Nazi

By Our Own Correspondent
New York, March 31

The man accused of shooting the President yesterday is a 25-year-old drifter who has belonged to right-wing political groups and who was arrested with three pistols near where President Carter was campaigning in Tennessee last October.

Mr John Warnock Hinckley was charged in Washington early today with attempting a presidential assassination—a federal crime for which the maximum penalty is life imprisonment.

To want to kill a president suggests powerful derangement. Mr Hinckley's history suggests that derangement and irrationality are in his character. He joined the Nationalist Socialist Party, a neo-Nazi group, in 1978 but was expelled in 1979 because his ideas were too extreme and violent.

"He wanted to shoot people and blow things up", Mr Michael Allen, the party's president-elect, said.

Mr Harold Covington, the party leader, added: "He felt we were not sufficiently militant for him. He wanted us to go out and commit unlawful acts. We sort of carried on a debate about it . . . He struck me as a sincere person who felt something had to be done."

Many of his acquaintances—He seems to have had few actual friends—called him a "loner", a neat word to dismiss someone who drifts by himself because he can find nobody with whom he wants to communicate. His parents in Evergreen, a small town in Colorado, said he had received psychiatric treatment.

His father, Mr John Hinckley senior, is a thrusting, successful businessman, president of the Vanderbilt Energy Corporation in Denver, Colorado.

A neighbour said of Mr and Mrs Hinckley's relationship with their son: "They only talked about him in the way parents would when they hoped their individualist [son] would come round and be one of the gang".

The Hinckleys were reported in a Texas newspaper today to have contributed to the presidential campaign of Vice-President George Bush last year. The Vice-President's brother, Neil Bush, is an acquaintance of Scott Hinckley, brother of the accused.

After leaving high school, the suspect went to Texas Tech university at Lubbock, Texas. His tutor, Professor Otto Nelson, said he surprised him and colleagues by being their first student to choose *Mein Kampf* by Adolf Hitler as a text on which to write a book report. "He did a good job on it and I gave him 90 per cent", Mr Nelson said.

He left Texas Tech in 1980 without gaining a degree and held a variety of short-term jobs since then. He has been a salesman in Hollywood, a bartender in Denver and a bookkeeper in Dallas.

Last October he was held by police at the airport at Nashville, Tennessee. He tried to board a flight to New York carrying three pistols, a pair of handcuffs and 50 rounds of ammunition.

President Carter was in Nashville that day attending a rally and Mr Reagan had cancelled a plan to visit Memphis nearby in the same week. Mr Hinckley was released on bail of $62.50 (£27) which he forfeited when he did not appear

Despite all that, Mr Hinckley did not appear on the Federal Bureau of Investigation's list of the 400 people most likely to try to kill the President.

There is a subsidiary list of 25,000 people who are watched less closely, as being less markedly of the presidential assassination type. Mr Hinckley does not appear on that one, either.

It was four days after his Nashville arrest that he went to Rocky's pawn shop in Dallas and bought two .22-calibre revolvers for $47 each.

With hindsight, witnesses to yesterday's shooting and the moments leading to it report that Mr Hinckley, 5ft 10in and fair haired, appeared "fidgety" and "hostile" as he waited for the President to leave the Hilton hotel in Washington after lunch.

"He kept turning his body from side to side", a bystander said. Yet he did not appear to have been closely questioned by police or servicemen on duty at the exit.

Letter found: Investigations have found an unposted letter written by John Warnock Hinckley which indicated "he might go out and do something to get himself killed", according to United States Justice Department sources.

The sources, who would not be identified, said the letter found in his quarters, also reflected that Mr Hinckley was in an "I don't care what happens to me" frame of mind. They did not say to whom the letter was addressed, nor would they say exactly when it was written.

Drama of three-hour Reagan operation

From Robert Reinhold
Washington, March 31

President Reagan was treated for a partially collapsed lung on Monday but the bullet that entered his left side and lodged in the tissue of his left lung did not do much further damage, according to doctors who operated on him.

Emergency surgical procedures, which took about three hours, found no bleeding in the abdominal area and therefore no damage to vital organs. He lost about five pints of blood before surgery.

Even before entering the operating room doctors at the George Washington University Hospital made a small incision in the President's chest wall to insert a chest tube. That device creates suction and removes air pressure from the lung cavity and reinflates the collapsed lung.

Neither the heart nor vital blood vessels, such as the aorta, were affected, Dr Dennis O'Leary, Dean for Clinical Affairs at the hospital, said at a briefing last night. The bullet was never close to any vital structure, he said.

The single bullet entered below the President's left armpit, travelled down about three inches, and was then deflected and deformed when it hit his seventh rib. From there it penetrated about three inches into Mr Reagan's left lung.

Uncertainty about whether the bullet, or fragments of it, had penetrated the abdominal cavity necessitated performing a technique in which a small incision in the abdomen is made, fluid inserted, and then withdrawn to see if blood is present. None was found and the surgeons made a six-inch incision in Mr Reagan's chest just below the left nipple to treat his lung injury and remove the bullet.

He underwent nearly three hours of surgery, not unusual in such cases.—New York Times News Service.

Mr Begin's coalition shows signs of regaining popularity

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, March 31

With three months to go before Israel's general election, one of the country's leading opinion polls has shown a sudden revival in the popularity of the ruling right-wing coalition headed by Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister.

According to the poll published today by the *Jerusalem Post*, the Likud coalition would win 33 out of the 120 Knesset seats, compared with 20 according to a similar poll conducted a month ago.

The findings are the strongest indication yet of a trend which has forced political commentators to abandon their earlier predictions of a landslide victory for the opposition Labour Party led by Mr Shimon Peres. The poll shows Labour winning 45 seats, compared with 58 in January.

In a commentary, the newspaper says that the Likud has attracted floating voters at the expense of Labour, and also those Israelis previously inclined to support the new Centre Party expected to be launched later this week by Mr Moshe Dayan, the former Foreign Minister.

Publication of the poll coincides with the announcement of the latest in a recent round of price cuts ordered by Mr Yoram Aridor, the new Finance Minister. The cuts have been condemned as an election gimmick by the Opposition, but appear to have been a crucial factor in reviving support for Mr Begin.

As a result of widespread reductions in customs and excise duties, a wide selection of goods will be between 10 and 20 per cent cheaper from tomorrow. These range from electric razors and washing machines to musical instruments and cosmetics.

Another poll published in the *Jerusalem Post* today showed that 61.7 per cent of the electorate are in favour of continuing to put up Jewish settlements in the occupied territories. Only 30 per cent of the sample were opposed to the settlements and 8.3 per cent were undecided.

Troops in hijack rescue were trained by SAS

From David Watts
Bangkok, March 31

The outcome of yesterday's attack on an Indonesian airliner at Bangkok airport and capture of the hijackers by Indonesian and Thai commandos owed much to the British Special Air Service training of the Thais and "certain observations" made by the British on how the hijacking might be handled.

The SAS have trained Thai experts in anti-terrorist operations, but there appears to have been no direct British involvement in the pre-dawn assault, the first such operation in Asia to be successful.

Freed hostages said that the five hijackers began to relax last night when they thought that prisoners freed from Indonesian jails would arrive early today. They told the 39 hostages on board the airliner: "Do not worry. Have your meal and go to sleep because tomorrow everything will be over."

Tension on board the DC9 eased for the first time since the aircraft touched down last Saturday, but outside some 30 Indonesian commandos and an unknown number of Thai troops prepared to attack.

The attack came at about 2.40 am as the Indonesian negotiators were dictating a list of the names of the prisoners that they claimed were to be released by the Indonesian Government.

The hijackers were clustered at the front of the airliner as the names were read out slowly enough for them to be taken down by one of the five.

Outside, a line of commandos was advancing on the aircraft from the rear. Aluminium ladders were propped against the wings and the rear entrance and the forward entrance. The rear doors were forced and the shooting began. It appears that the forward door may have been opened by the pilot, Mr Hermann Rante

Mr Rante is in a critical condition after being shot through the head. Another casualty is an Indonesian commando.

A boy stripped to the waist carrying food to the hijacked airliner in Bangkok before it was stormed.

The Indonesian DC10 airliner which brought some of the Jakarta negotiating team left with the Indonesian assault force only hours after the hijacking ended.

The Thai Government which had publicly denied that force would be used said today that the decision to storm the airliner had been taken because it became clear that after an exchange of prisoners the hijackers intended to force the exhausted crew to fly them out of Bangkok without any specific destination in mind.

After 60 hours in the hands of the hijackers, the lives of the crew would have been in danger, the Thai Government said. Though the Indonesian Government had "tried its utmost" it had failed to reach a compromise with the hijackers who were *making* new demands and refusing to release children and exhausted passengers.

That account does not tally with that of a Dutch engineer, Mr Hendrik Seisen, who spoke of the relaxed atmosphere on board the airliner before the attack.

It is clear that the Indonesians wanted a military solution to the hijacking from the start. From the moment the airliner touched down in Bangkok they had been pressing for an assault.

The Indonesian authorities said today that all the hijackers had criminal records, some of them for murdering Indonesian officials, and were members of the *Commando Jihad* (Holy War Commando).

The hijackers seem to have been remarkably silent on the motives for the attack. Mr Robert Wainwright the Briton who escaped from the airliner on Sunday morning, told *The Times* that the five had never tried to explain their motivation to the foreigners though they spoke in Bahasa Indonesian to the rest of the passengers.

Mr Wainwright is 26 and comes from Cromford, Derbyshire, but is now living in Jakarta.

Mr Wainwright slipped off his seat belt, opened the emergency door, rolled out on to the wing, then dropped to the ground and ran behind the aircraft.

The atmosphere on Sunday morning had changed after the hijackers' leader fired his automatic pistol in the direction of the co-pilot. Mr Wainwright could not see whether the co-pilot was hit. Early *reports said* that two people had been shot on Sunday, including the co-pilot, but Mr Wainwright saw only smoke from the gun and heard a shot.

"If it was a trick it certainly worked. We thought the co-pilot was dead", he said "Everybody sat up and took notice after that."

Mr Karl Schneider, Mr Wainwright's American colleague, was shot while trying to reach an exit door. Mr Schneider is recovering.

Praise for Thais: The United States and Britain today praised Thailand for its handling of the hijack (Agence France-Presse reports from Bangkok).

Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, congratulated the Thai Government on the "resolute manner" in which the drama was resolved. In a message from Mr David Burns, the British Chargé d'Affaires here, Britain paid tribute to the "successful conclusion of the hijack incident".

Russians find Summer Time confusing

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, March 31

At midnight tonight four engineers will climb up into the tower of the Spassky Gate, the imposing entrance to the Kremlin from Red Square that houses the Soviet equivalent of Big Ben, and move the huge hands of the famous chiming clock forward one hour.

The operation will take minutes and is one of the many changes that will take place all over the country as the Soviet Union, for the first time in its history, introduces summer time. In Moscow streets alone there are 300 clocks, and a special team will tour the capital to change them all within the space of an hour.

The Soviet authorities have admitted that the procedure, which is arousing considerable anxiety and misunderstanding among ordinary Russians, is much more complicated than was earlier thought. The newspapers have directed a barrage of advice and reassurance to worried citizens over the past week.

For a start, they have said no one need wait up actually until midnight to change his clock; it is quite permissible to complete this operation before you go to bed. Secondly, anyone booked to travel on a train departing between midnight and one o'clock—nine leave Moscow at this time—need not worry that the trains will vanish into a temporal void; they will all be rescheduled to leave an hour later. And late night revellers have been promised that the Moscow Metro will keep running tonight for an extra hour.

To ensure that employees turn up on time tomorrow, many Soviet factories are asking their workers to adjust their watches this evening as they leave work. But things are still not clear to everyone. The Soviet maid of one diplomat recently informed them:

"On April 1 I shall come to you at 8.00 instead of 9.00 because of the new time. But I suppose you will still be in bed then, because this change is only for us Russians. It doesn't apply to foreigners, does it?"

Military rule criticized by Jewish academics

From Our Own Correspondent
Jerusalem, March 31

Growing concern among Jewish academics about restrictions on the academic freedom of Arab teachers and students at universities in the occupied West Bank will be expressed in a controversial report to be sent next month to more than 3,000 Israeli university teachers.

The report is the first of its kind to be undertaken by Israeli academics and is expected to cause embarrassment to the Israeli Military Government. It has been drawn up by a committee of five prominent members of the law, economics and science faculties at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Although the final draft of the report is still being completed, I understand that it will be sharply critical of a military government order issued last July which led to serious rioting during which a number of stone-throwing Palestinian students were shot in the legs by Israeli troops.

The order extended the existing Jordanian Education and Culture Law of 1963 to cover the four West Bank universities. It empowered the military administration to licence the universities on an annual basis and to oversee the appointment of staff and the selection of students.

The order has led to protests from distinguished academics in a number of European countries, including Britain. It has also led to repeated complaints by principals of the West Bank universities that the military government is interfering in basic academic freedoms.

Last December when about 40 Hebrew University teachers met to discuss reports of academic repression in the West Bank, they decided to appoint the ad hoc committee to undertake a detailed investigation.

Since then committee members have conducted numerous interviews at the universities of Bir Zeit and Bethlehem, where they received full cooperation from Arab staff and students.

Israeli seaborne attack on Palestinian targets

From Tewfik Mishlawi
Beirut, March 31

Israel launched a seaborne attack early today on Palestinian targets north of the coastal city of Tyre, killing at least one guerrilla and wounding five others.

The state-controlled Lebanon radio said that Israeli commandos landed at Jal el Bahr just north of the biblical city "under cover of a barrage of fire from gunboats off the Lebanese coast". It added that Israeli helicopters flew overhead as the attackers clashed with "local forces", a reference to the Palestinian guerrillas and their Lebanese left-wing allies who control the area.

A Palestinian spokesman said that Israeli forces "tried several times to land on the Lebanese southern coast, but each time were forced to retreat", the spokesman admitted that one Palestinian guerrilla was killed and five others were wounded. He said "heavy casualties were also inflicted on the attackers".

Israel, on the other hand, said that all its forces returned to base safely after attacking Palestinian guerrillas' supply routes.

Rocket bombardment: For the first time since 1976, Palestinian guerrillas last night used a position inside Jordan to fire Russian-made rockets at targets in the Israeli-occupied Jordan valley. The attack was discovered this morning by a patrol sent to investigate mysterious explosions in the area (Christopher Walker writes from Jerusalem).

Although no damage or casualties resulted, General Rafael Eitan, the Israeli Chief of Staff, today described the incident as "an unusual development" which the Israeli Army regarded very gravely.

General Viola promises Argentina a free press

From Our Correspondent
Buenos Aires, March 31

President Roberto Viola promised freedom of expression in Argentina and closer contact between the Government and the press in his first address to the nation which was broadcast on television and radio last night.

General Viola, who took office on Sunday, said: "Freedom of the press, responsibly exercised, is . . . essential to democracy." He emphasizes that all government decisions would in future be made known to the press.

The President's speech appeared to usher in a period of liberalization. He said trade unions had made a big contribution to peace in Argentina during the past five years of military government.

President Viola called on the people to participate in the armed forces' "national reorganization process". He said his Government would listen to "honest criticism, no matter how harsh it might be".

But he also gave a warning that he had not been appointed by the military junta to "liquidate the process". He said the armed forces were committed to finding a political solution to Argentina's problems.

The President also promised to reactivate the economy, re-establish confidence in the foreign exchange market, and protect national industry from dumping.

Bomb goes off at Shell Hongkong

Hongkong, March 31.—A bomb exploded at the headquarters of Shell Oil Company here today, injuring one man, soon after the company received a hand-delivered letter demanding an undisclosed amount of money. The letter said a second bomb had been planted and would explode around noon unless the sum was paid.

Police immediately evacuated all Shell buildings and installations. The noon deadline passed without any blast

Poison attempt by radiation

Cherbourg.—A court sentenced Noel Lecomte, a 28-year-old former employee of a uranium processing plant, to nine months in prison yesterday after finding him guilty of trying to poison his employer by hiding radioactive material in his car.

The prosecutor called the case "the first of its kind in legal history" and the authorities did not initially know what charge to prefer. Finally, they settled on "attempted poisoning".—AP.

NZ crowds cheer Prince of Wales

From Our Correspondent
Wellington, March 31

A crowd of 18,000, more than half of them schoolchildren, greeted the Prince of Wales at the Basin Reserve sportsground in Wellington today, shortly after his arrival in New Zealand on the first leg of a tour which will take him to Australia, the United States and Venezuela.

Prince Charles was given the traditional Maori welcome by a party of 200. He told the crowd: "I am looking forward to seeing more of New Zealand over the next 12 days. This is a splendid opportunity to meet many New Zealanders from the far north to the far south."

Replying to Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, the Prince said he would tell his bride that a warm welcome awaited them when they would come to New Zealand together. Prince Charles later met Cabinet ministers and other leading figures at Parliament House before dining tonight with the Prime Minister. Among the guests were young people chosen for their particular achievements including the All Blacks Rugby captain, Graham Mourie, the New Zealand cricket captain, Geoffrey Howarth, and Miss Tania Harris who promoted and led the "Kiwis care" anti-strike march in Auckland earlier this month.

Posters protesting against the visit were removed by the police in the predominantly working class dormitory city of Porirua today. Several people face charges of offensive behaviour. The Prince is to visit the area tomorrow.

Mr Sadat admits the sale of arms to Iraq

From Our Correspondent
Cairo, March 31

Egypt has sold arms to Iraq recently, President Sadat said today but he emphasized that his Government still condemns the six-month-old Gulf war and Iraq for starting it.

Justifying his seemingly contradictory attitude, the Egyptian leader said the sale was in fact a favour in return for the ground-to-ground missiles provided by Iraq free of charge to Egypt during the 1973 Middle East war. At the time, both countries were armed by the Soviet Union, but Moscow had imposed an arms embargo on Egypt.

Mr Sadat made the revelation during a two-hour speech to the Egyptian Journalists' Association. For the past two days his aides have been contradicting themselves over reports that Egypt recently sold an estimated 4,000 tons of military equipment to Iraq. The President did not say how much the arms were worth, nor did he specifythe types.

Iraq is championing the so-called "rejectionist camp" of Arab countries opposed to Egypt's peace moves with Israel. The Egyptian President emphasized that the sale had nothing to do with his country's political position or the Gulf war between the two oil countries.

He justified it in the same way that he had explained his reasons for giving succour to the late Shah of Iran—returning a favour for one given when Egypt needed it most. The late Shah had diverted oil shipments to Egyptian ports during the 1973 war.

Egypt produced Soviet-style light and medium arms for several years. Its clients are known to include Oman, Somalia, Sudan and several other African and Arab countries.

Mr Sadat said the Iraquis had approached Egypt through a third party, but that Egypt had turned that down. "The Iraquis came to Cairo. They chose the weapons they wanted, and an agreement was signed," he said, "but that does not change our position on the war. It is wrong for one Islamic country to attack another".

During the same address Mr Sadat said dissident Egyptian journalists working abroad, including in Britain, could return home before May 15 and charges against them would be dropped.

They are accused of "defaming their country and jeopardizing internal security" by their attacks on the regime and its peace moves with Israel. The charges were brought against them in May, 1978, by the public prosecutor.

Tehran test: The fragile, two-week truce in the feuding between President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr and his opponents in the clergy-led Iranian Government will face its first big test tomorrow, when hundreds of thousands of people march to celebrate the second anniversary of the founding of the Islamic republic (Reuter reports from Tehran).

More than half a million people are expected to take to the streets of the capital for a rally. There will be smaller demonstrations nationwide.

Baghdad mission: An Islamic delegation arrived in Baghdad in its third attempt at negotiating a ceasefire between Iran and Iraq despite its apparent failure to win any concessions from Iran (UPI reports from Beirut).

The nine-man delegation flew in from Iran where Mr Habib Chatti, the group's spokesman and the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, admitted that yet another trip to Iran would be necessary.

Mr Nott fails to allay Gulf fears on intervention

From Our Correspondent
Dubai, March 31

Mr John Nott, the Br[itish] Defence Minister who is [visit]ing Dubai, repeated his re[assu]rances today that the proj[ected] rapid deployment force is [to be] used only at the request, present hypothetical, of rulers in the event of d[irect] Russian aggression. But hi[s re]marks have not entirely [suc]ceeded in allaying suspic[ions] about the possible uses of force in the minds of the press.

At a press conference in [Abu] Dhabi yesterday Mr Nott emphasized that the force w[ould] be used only if invited by Gulf states in an emerge[ncy]. Today he repeated that in [his] view the Gulf states were [poli]tically stable but that the [Rus]sian threat was real and ne[eded] to be met with strength.

Questioned as to the gr[avity] and seriousness of the Ru[ssian] threat, which is often dismi[ssed] by the Gulf press, Mr Nott [said] he felt that the rulers whom he had had discuss[ions with] shared his view that the th[reat] was real and drew para[llels] with Russian moves in An[gola] and Ethiopia. The Ku[waiti] Foreign Ministers had ea[rlier] been quoted as saying there [was] no such threat from the So[viet] Union.

Asked whether inte[rnal] change in the Shaikhdoms m[ight] cause the West to see a th[reat] to its own interests justif[ying] the use of the force, Mr [Nott] said today that the Gulf st[ates] were independent and stable. Britain's former pres[ence] in the Gulf had never [been] directed towards control[ling] internal affairs, he said.

Moscow human rights activist pleads not guilty

Moscow, March 31.—Miss Tatiana Osipova, a human rights activist, pleaded not guilty to charges of "anti-Soviet propaganda and agitation" when her trial opened here today, her husband, Mr Ivan Kovalyov, said.

Mr Kovalyov is a member of the Moscow group monitoring Soviet compliance with the Helsinki human rights accords.

Tass reported that she was charged with "fabricating, holding and passing, from 1978 to 1980, material slanderous to the Soviet Union".

She is also accused of distributing Alexander Solzhenitsyn's *Gulag Archipelago*.—Agence France-Presse and AP.

Neutrals at Madrid offer a compromise

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, March 31

Eight neutral and non-aligned countries at the European Security Review Conference today presented a draft concluding document which offers the Soviet Union a European disarmament conference as the price of agreeing to stricter humanitarian obligations.

The neutrals decided last week, with the Madrid meeting completely deadlocked between East and West, that the only thing they could do in a final attempt to save the European security process itself in the present international climate was to draft a document dropping issues which were totally unacceptable to one side or the other. Human rights has been the outstanding casualty.

The proposals submitted at a plenary session by Yugoslavia, on behalf of Austria, Cyprus, Finland, Liechtenstein, San Marino, Sweden and Switzerland envisage a first stage conference devoted to confidence building measures. Then, if approved by a follow-up European security review conference, to be held in 1983, there would be a second stage intended to tackle arms limitation and disarmament proper.

First reactions among Western delegates were negative, concentrating on the omission of human rights which are only accorded a very generalized reference in the introductory part.

Dr Franz Ceska, the chief Austrian delegate, talking to reporters afterwards, maintained that the draft was "an honest attempt to work out a balance, where everyone will find elements they do not like, but designed to achieve general acceptability".

The neutrals have decided to concentrate their efforts on family contacts, family reunifications, and marriage between citizens of different states.

The neutrals' confidence building measures would cover the whole of Europe with the adjoining sea and air space, be militarily significant and politically binding and be accompanied, as they put it, by "adequate and appropriate verification corresponding to their content".

Western and communist nations are expected to give their considered replies at Friday's plenary.

Former Bhutto lawyer jailed for five years

From Our Correspondent
Islamabad, March 31

Mr Yahya Bakhtiar, a former Attorney General and the chief defence counsel at the trial of Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, the former prime minister, was today sentenced to five years' imprisonment with hard labour by a special Peshawar court on a charge of abusing his position in the annulled general election of March, 1977.

Mr Bakhtiar, who comes from Baluchistan, was a candidate of Mr Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party in the 1977 election from a Quetta constituency and was declared elected. After the promulgation of martial law in July, 1977, he was charged with election rigging.

He was also fined 100,000 rupees (£4,760) or, in default, a further one year in jail.

The court found no mitigating circumstances and awarded him the maximum punishment provided by the law.

Although proceedings against Mr Bakhtiar were initiated in November, 1977, his actual prosecution was held in abeyance for about two years because of his involvement in the Bhutto trial.

Mr Bakhtiar, who conducted his own defence, was not present in the court today. He had not been detained and his whereabouts are not known.

Red Brigades members jailed

Macerata, March 31.—Ten alleged members of the Red Brigades guerrilla group, including a married couple, were jailed for a total of 86 years today. They had been accused of attacking a regional office of the Christian Democratic Party and of other crimes in 1977 and 1988.—Reuter.

Freedom Day challenge by Malta Opposition

From Peter Nichols
Valletta, March 31

This is "freedom day" in Malta, officially recognized as the main national holiday for the past two years. But the Opposition's indignant "Freedom for what?" is a question which goes a long way beyond the celebration of the departure of the British bases.

The British departure on March 31, 1979, is the reason for making this the national day instead of September 21 which had this honour from independence in 1964. The Nationalist Opposition is still pledged to revert to September 21 if returned to power.

Last night President Buttigieg told the crowd gathered at the foot of the freedom monument in Vittoriosa that they had come to renew their solemn pledge that never again would there be foreign military bases here and that Malta would continue to be an independent republic administered by the Maltese for the Maltese.

Mr Dom Mintoff, the Prime Minister and main supporter of Freedom Day as opposed to Independence Day, said nothing at the ceremony, but he performed the most dramatic gesture of the evening by lighting a symbolic flame of freedom with a burning torch.

The "Freedom for what?" demand is one which he will be expected to answer in the period of less than a year left before he must call a general election.

This is a delicate moment for Mr Mintoff. He has led the country since 1971, in and out of a close friendship with Libya and now he is about to start the experiment of internationally declared neutrality guaranteed and financially aided by the Italians.

The Libyan quarrel cooled a little yesterday with the news that Tripoli had decided to reopen Libyan markets to Maltese exporters from tomorrow. But talks directed at solving the principal issue between them failed last week. This concerns drilling rights for offshore oil.

These days it is the opposition leaders who go to Libya, not the Prime Minister, and supporters of the Labour Government recall rather irritably that the Nationalist Opposition used to refer rudely to Libyans as "peanut sellers" and to attack Mr Mintoff for bringing them into the island's affairs.

There is no such resentment against the Italian agreement. The Opposition in this case claims credit for having helped the agreement along. Certainly, it potentially offers Malta a different way of using the freedom being celebrated today.

Essentially, the Italians offer Malta a guarantee of the island's neutrality and non-alignment against a promise to consult the Maltese and other interested states in the event of a threat as well as referring questions, if necessary, to the Security Council.

The Italians will take steps at Malta's request "not excluding military assistance" while reserving the right to feel freed of their obligations if changes should occur to alter substantially Malta's neutral status.

The guarantee is supposed to be open to other Mediterranean powers. In fact, as originally devised, the guarantors should also have included France, Libya and Algeria. According to the Italians, this multilateral guarantee and financial agreement broke down because Mr Mintoff himself wanted to have individual arrangements for aid with each of his guarantors.

The Italians decided to go ahead alone and the agreement was signed last autumn.

There is a genuine feeling of acceptance among Maltese that the end of military bases has allowed the island the chance to have a new future as, in Mr Mintoff's phrase, "an instrument for peace".

Mr Mintoff has never been an easy associate as first the British and then the Libyans discovered and he is particularly sensitive now at what is clearly a crucial moment for him, to the need for what he regards as fair treatment of his activities by the press. *The Times* has been banned in Malta since March 5 because space was not found for two letters from Maltese officials answering published reports and comments.

Officials of the information office claim that no censorship is intended. They point out that of Malta's six daily newspapers four oppose the Government. They are particularly anxious that their case is fully stated in Britain.

Unemployment proves to be the main preoccupation of all candidates

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, March 31

French Presidential Election

What emerges most clearly above the deafening din of the electoral battle and the bewildering clash of words in the press, on the radio, and on television, is the preoccupation of all the main candidates with the problem of unemployment. That is what really concerns the average French voter.

President Giscard d'Estaing had admitted during his first television appearance earlier this month that unemployment had been the greatest failure of his first seven-year term. That has not prevented him, at the weekend and again last night on television, from proposing a new plan to beat it which was, in his opinion, more likely to achieve a result over the next seven years than the assorted nostrums of all his rivals. On Sunday at the youth rally at the Porte de Pantin, he undertook, if he were re-elected to provide as many jobs as there were young people coming on to the labour market.

He would create a million new jobs in the next five years, he said, by a combination of measures, including the departure of a quarter of a million foreign workers, lowering of the retirement age, development of part-time work and a reduction in working hours. All the other plans proposed to come to grips with the unemployment problem were remarkably vague.

Yesterday, on television, the President produced figures of the cost of his own plan, which would amount to 20,000m francs (£1.8m) in three years. It was less than the 50,000m francs the government had spent in the past seven years to improve old age pensions and the 23,000m francs in benefits for the handicapped, in spite of the economic crisis.

He pointed out, for the benefit of M Mitterand, the Socialist leader, that it would cost half as much to lower the retirement age of civil servants and state employees as to recruit 210,000 new ones, as M Mitterand proposed. One of the questions raised by M Giscard d'Estaing's plan is, of course, why it was not put into operation earlier.

This question was put to him last night by the journalists who interviewed him. He was not at all put off by it. During his first seven years in office he had helped France to stand up to the crisis. During the second seven years he wanted to move to a more aggressive policy. His second term would be like the second stage of a rocket, for which preparations had been laid during the fi[rst].

He went on to argue that [the] economy in general, and [the] state of unemployment in pa[rti]cular, would have been worse if France had applied [the] remedies suggested by [his] rivals.

He said that polls had sho[wn] that M Mitterand, M March[ais], the Communist leader, and h[im]self had about an equal sh[are] of the working-class v[ote]. France was not as divided [as] many would claim. More in[di]vidual homes had been b[uilt] during his term of office t[han] ever before, and the numb[er] of telephone lines [had] increased from six million [to] 16 million. "We are the o[nly] country in Europe which w[ill] have economic growth [in] 1981", he said.

The President's unemploy[ment] plan has provoked [a] battle of figures which [is] likely to leave the bulk of [the] voters rather indifferent. T[he] Socialist Party spokesm[an] claimed today that he h[ad] resorted to the Giscardi[an] method of "costing by variab[le] geometry, which consists [in] oversestimating the expen[di]ture of others and unde[r]estimating his own".

Yesterday's television pe[r]formance ended the fir[st], explanatory, phase of his cam[]paign. Tonight, he begins th[e] second, active, phase with tw[o] public meetings in Metz and Nancy, where he will come fa[ce] to face with the unemployme[nt] problem in mining and steel

PARLIAMENT, March 31, 1981

Prescription charge tied with cost of drugs dispensed

House of Commons

Prescription charges had increased by 400 per cent since May, 1979, Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister of State for Health, said during questions. Prescription charges would increase annually in line with costs, and present expenditure plans assumed that the charges would be increased in April, 1982, and annually thereafter.

Dr Vaughan (Reading South, C) said that the prescription charge in May 1979 was 20p, having been set in April, 1971, when the average cost of a prescription item was 90p. The charge was increased on December 1, 1980, from 70p to £1 when the average cost of a prescription item was £3.14p.

Mr Ronald Leighton (Newham, North-East, Lab): That is a peculiarly disingenuous answer. In view of this astronomical increase of 400 per cent, is it clear that what the Conservatives said at the last election about Labour charges, that these would increase, and he called that a major lie, shows that the prospectus put before the electorate by the Conservative Party was bogus.

Dr Vaughan: This is an increase in a charge which is an adjustment of charge to cost. Those are not my words but the words of the Secretary of State for Social Services in 1969, the late Richard Crossman. The percentage increase in charges since 1979 is 400 per cent compared with a percentage increase in cost of prescriptions since the 20p was introduced of 335 per cent.

Mr Raymond Powell (Ogmore, Lab): Is his department still adhering to what is no more than a rule of thumb of charging the patient one third of the total cost of the medication in prescription charges?

If that is so, is it his intention to raise prescription charges to £1.30p in the autumn?

Dr Donald Dixon (Jarrow, Lab): In view of the positive campaign to get doctors to prescribe cheaper items of drugs, this had led to a substantial percentage of prescriptions falling below the £1 prescription charge. Has not this led to a lot of chemists not submitting prescriptions for payment?

Dr Vaughan: It is too early to see the effects of the recent increase but the total number of prescriptions has fallen. In 1979 it was 304,600,000, it is now 303,300,000.

I would have thought the Labour Party who first introduced and later re-introduced charges would have been pleased over this. It shows wiser use of the money for drugs.

Mr Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar, C): What percentage of the total population does not pay prescription charges and how does this compare with 1979?

Dr Vaughan: Some 25 per cent do not pay prescription charges. Some 65 per cent have exemptions and 5 per cent, making 70 per cent, use season tickets, which I am glad to say have gone up considerably.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab): He is invoking a new principle in tieing the charge to the rate of inflation. Will he give an assurance no other health service charges will be linked to the rate of inflation?

Dr Vaughan: No. I do not think Mr Hamilton is looking at this in the correct way. What we are doing is to tie prescription charges to the cost of the drugs dispensed.

Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton, North, C): As the Government or the taxpayer has contributed in real terms £150m more to the health services under this Government than under the last Government, is it not reasonable that those who can afford to pay for prescriptions, should do so?

Dr Vaughan: Yes, it is reasonable. We have kept our pledge in increasing overall the money available. Drugs are running at £1,000m a year. The majority of people would be pleased to contribute towards this cost.

Mr Terence Davis, an Opposition spokesman on health (Birmingham, Stechford, Lab): Now that the Minister has admitted that this Government have increased prescription charges by 400 per cent, will he explain why they have chosen to increase this charge by a much larger increase than any over charge, licence, tax or excise duty?

Dr Vaughan: I do not accept that. We are adjusting the costs in direct proportion to the amount of money being spent on drugs.

Call to tax child benefit

Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, said he was taking seriously representations that weekly child benefit payments should be retained for those who wished them. He was still considering the comments received on the Government's proposals and hoped to announce a decision shortly after the Easter recess.

Mr Ralph Howell (Norfolk, North, C): Child benefit is more valuable to those on higher incomes because it is tax free. Has he considered making it taxable and if so, what would be the yield?

Mr Jenkin: The child benefit replaced the child tax allowances which had the same impact, indeed more so. Child benefit, being a child tax credit in a sense, is a tax free sum to be paid to mothers whatever their income.

He says we should turn it into some kind of means-tested benefit. I would have some doubt about that. That it should be brought into taxation, when it has replaced a tax allowance would seem a strange step indeed.

Changes in treatment of mental illness

House of Lords

There was no area of national policy where the yawning gap between the stated intentions of successive governments and their implementation in practice was as wide as in the provision of after care for the mentally ill, the Earl of Longford (Lab) said, opening a debate on the need to provide a more effective system of mental after-care.

He said the statutory duties of local authorities in relation to the mentally ill should be strengthened. There should be close strategic planning and operational links between the health services for the mentally ill and the local authority social and housing services.

The Government's present policy was having the opposite effect to encouraging voluntary organizations and the whole voluntary effort appeared to be in imminent danger.

Lord Winstanley (L) said for the trend away from hospitalization to be effective there must be a trend towards the greater provision of home care facilities. The recent trend of domiciliary services had been in the reverse direction. There were 34 local authority areas in which there were no day care centres or other day care provision.

Lord Richardson said results of an experimental unit—known as the ward-hostel system—at Maudsley Hospital had been satisfactory and he hoped this concept could be extended.

Lord Lloyd (C) said there were no votes in mental health and it was inevitable that in an economic situation when there were strong pressures on local authorities to cut expenditure that mental health would be an obvious target for economy. For the nation it was a false economy.

Lady Masham of Ilton (Ind) said she had been appalled at the clinical austerity of some mental hospitals. Coloured paint, she believed, cost no more than white or grey.

Lord Soper (Lab) said he pleaded with the Government not to curtail the kind of services which could keep alive voluntary associations dealing with alcoholism.

The Countess of Loudon (Ind) said no psychiatric patient should be discharged into the community unless he was ready and trained for his new life.

Lord Wallace of Coslany, for the Opposition, said there were thousands of patients in mental hospitals who could leave if accommodation outside and after-care facilities were available. The official estimate was 20,000.

Lord Cullen of Ashbourne, a Lord in Waiting, said the magnitude of the change which had taken place in the treatment of mental illness was illustrated by the fact that about 90 per cent of first admissions in 1979 were discharged within three months of admission, and that at the end of December 1979 there were 76,000 patients in mental hospitals compared with 143,000 on the same date in 1954. These changes had a direct bearing on the task of after-care. This had become an important part of the work of health and social service authorities.

There had been steady progress in the development of a wide range of residential accommodation in the after-care of the mentally ill. In 1978/79, expenditure on residential care increased by about 10 per cent in real terms.

The Government believed in partnership and close cooperation between the voluntary and statutory sectors. It was the Government's intention that grants to voluntary bodies would continue to be maintained in real terms.

The Government's policy was to ensure that the NHS and the local authorities together in partnership with voluntary organizations planned and developed networks of community care which were comprehensive, flexible and responsive to the needs of each individual patient, concentrating care in particular on those with long-term needs. Despite the present difficulties, the network really was growing, not evenly but quite widely.

The debate was concluded.

House adjourned, 8.36 pm.

Meeting will go ahead without trade union leaders

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, expressed regret that the trade union representatives on the National Economic Development Council had said that they would not attend a meeting of the council tomorrow (Wednesday).

Labour MPs cheered when she said that the representatives did not wish to cross the Civil Service picket line and Conservative MPs countered by cheering when she added that the meeting would, nevertheless, be going ahead.

Mr Timothy Renton (Mid Sussex, C) had asked her: How can trade union leaders expect to be taken seriously as partners in discussing Britain's economic future if they refuse to attend tomorrow's Neddy meeting because of the Civil Service picket line?

Will she impress on the senior trade union representatives the folly of such action and ensure that the Neddy meeting takes place in any event?

Mrs Thatcher (Barnet, Finchley, C) said she very much regretted that there would not be trade union representation at the meeting as there were such important matters on the agenda as industrial energy pricing and regional industrial issues.

Mr Dennis Skinner (Bolsover, Lab): One of the reasons those people will not be crossing the picket line in support of the Civil Service pay dispute is because in her election campaign she told the civil servants, half of whom get less than the average wage and many of whom are below the poverty wage line, that if they voted for free collective bargaining, Mrs Thatcher and the rest they would get all the wages possible in line with those who were free collective bargaining outside.

Those civil servants are asking the Prime Minister and the rest of her tawdry, rotten Government to carry out their mandate (Conservative protests). That is all they are asking for. That is the reason there are picket lines.

Mrs Thatcher: Since the Government was in power civil servants have been awarded increases in pay of 50 per cent in the last two years. On top of that they have been offered another 7 per cent, which most of us believe is a good deal for those in the public sector.

They are on levels of pay which many in the private sector would wish to have.

Mr John Heddle (Lichfield and Tamworth, C): Can she consider the position of the public sector unions as well as the Civil Service unions: those who are responsible for providing essential services for the nation and who wish to achieve pay settlements in excess of those freely entered into in the private sector?

This could only begin to be done by way of an exchange for a binding no-strike agreement.

Mrs Thatcher: The Civil Service pay offer of 7 per cent already exceeds what a number of people in the private sector will get.

With regard to the other nationalized industries there is great difficulty in applying the same disciplines to them as to those companies which suffer bankruptcy if they do not achieve competitive prices in the market.

Most of us think people should be paid for their work and not for no-strike agreements, but it is a possibility always to consider that.

Those whose service is vital to the well-being of their fellow citizens should stick at their jobs. (Conservative cheers.)

Mr Sydney Bidwell (Ealing, Southall, Lab): Many trade union leaders tell us when they visit this House that even when they attend meetings in her presence, they are to be seen and not heard.

What is the difficulty about their not crossing a picket line over the Civil Service dispute? It is a waste of time.

Mrs Thatcher: That is nonsense. When I take the chair at Neddy of course the trade unions are vocal in what they wish to say. When they come to see me, about 40 altogether, the difficulty is to persuade 37 of them to say anything at all. (Conservative laughter.)

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab): Returning to the Civil Service dispute, if she is so certain of the Government's case, why is she so afraid to refer the matter to arbitration, as the unions have asked?

Has she yet had time today to study the latest report of the CBI on the present state of the British economy? Does she think that report accords with her view that there is increasing evidence of an upturn in the economy?

Mrs Thatcher: The Government has a duty to decide what the taxpayer can afford to pay to public servants. The more money that goes in current expenditure the less there is for capital expenditure.

Therefore the more that goes in current the more unemployment is created, because that money could have gone on vital capital projects. I hope those in the Civil Service will remember that.

The indications of an upturn in the economy come in the main from other forecasters—(Labour interruptions)—in part from CBI indicators, but otherwise from the totally independent indicators published by the Central Statistical Office which gives the leading indicators both long and short term.

Mr Foot: Who are these other forecasters? Would she say specifically whether she agrees with the CBI judgment in their latest report that the Budget reduced demand and increased business costs? Is that a plain statement of fact?

Mrs Thatcher: The answer is "No". (Renewed Labour interruptions). There was a good deal to relieve industry in the last Budget: a reduction of interest rates of a further 2 per cent, worth about £700m over a year, a generous scheme for stock relief, and further relief for particularly big users of fuel in industry. With regard to the outside forecasters, the latest from the National Institute of Economic and Social Research, the London Business School, Phillips and Drew and the Central Statistical Office, leading indicators, all of which suggest a levelling out by this spring or an upturn.

Mr Foot: Does she not appreciate that the report she says she has read from the CBI takes into account these factors and still arrives at the conclusion I suggest: a Budget which will increase unemployment rather than reduce it.

Is she trying to tell the country that the CBI are liars? (Conservative protests).

Mrs Thatcher: Of course not. I resent deeply what he chooses to say. (Further Labour interruptions) The Budget will not increase unemployment. What is more likely than anything else to increase unemployment is those people who take out more for themselves regardless of the effect upon others. (Conservative cheers).

Mr John Carlisle (Luton, West, C): Vauxhall Motors in Luton, having been on a one-day week for several months, are moving to a four-day week. Does this not indicate the confidence that several businesses, large and small, are showing in the Government's economic policy?

Mrs Thatcher: Yes. Some companies are being realistic and making themselves competitive. They are the ones who will get orders and can offer future and sound job prospects. Vauxhall are not alone in this.

Some of the best news we have had is the Hongkong order which will give many jobs and was won because of the efficiency of those companies.

Mr Anthony Kershaw (Stroud, C): When she chairs NEDC will she take no notice of the 354 economists whose various opinions have been tried and have failed? (Conservative cheers.)

Mrs Thatcher: I rather thought those 354 did themselves more damage than anyone else. (Laughter.)

Should you pay for curing your bad habits?

A suggestion that people should meet the costs of treating illnesses which they cause in themselves was greeted with protests at question time, and a rejection by Sir George Young, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security.

Mr Brian Mawhinney (Peterborough, C) asked for an estimate of how much illnesses related to smoking and to alcohol abuse cost the National Health Service

Sir George Young, (Ealing, Acton, C): The cost to the NHS of smoking-related diseases is £115m according to departmental estimates, and, of alcohol-related diseases, £50m to £69m, at November 1979 prices.

Mr Mawhinney: What must the cost to the NHS reach before he will impose a direct charge on NHS patients whose voluntary decisions bring these illnesses on themselves? (Protests.)

Sir George Young: His suggestion that people should meet the costs of those illnesses they cause has at first sight the advantage of equity and logic, but if a person goes into hospital with high blood pressure and he smokes and drinks, how can one prove the causality between the habit and the illness, and how does one say what was a contributory factor and what not?

Then there is the philosophical problem of which bad habit does Mr Mawbinney suggest we select—(Laughter)—accidents in the home or glue sniffing, or dangerous habits like pot holing or even bicycling?

I see some problems and I have no plans to introduce any charges.

Mr Ronald Lewis (Carlisle, Lab): In view of the ever-increasing number of alcoholics and the apparent increase in under-age drinking, will he follow the example of one of his predecessors when he banned the advertising of smoking, and do the same with alcohol? (Conservative, shouts of "No" and "Definitely not".)

Sir George Young: No. There is a difference between smoking and drinking, in that at least the majority of those who drink do so in moderation and do no harm to themselves.

The same is regrettably not true of those who smoke. I do not see the direct parallel which he does.

Sir William Clark (Croydon, South, C): In view of the increased cost of smoking and drinking, it is utter nonsense to include the cost of both in the retail price index.

Sir George Young: I should welcome an opportunity to give advice to the House, but I have no ministerial responsibility for this.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab): Official statistics show that this Government is driving more and more people to drink. (Laughter.)

Has the department therefore estimated the detailed effect of the swingeing increase of the prices of both tobacco and alcohol announced in the budget?

Sir George Young: This has of necessity to be speculative, but initial estimates indicate that there might be a reduction of about 8 per cent in the sale of tobacco as a result of the budget increase.

No figures are available at present about the possible impact on alcohol consumption but I think that the increases will maintain the price of alcohol relative to other goods and services.

I do think one can make a case for alcohol becoming relatively cheap.

Problem drinker

Sir George Young, Under Secretary of State for Health, said that it was expected that a discussion document *The Problem Drinker at Work* would be published in the next two months in the Health and Safety Executive occasional paper series.

Reluctant boroughs to take over GLC housing

Nearly 54 thousand houses and flats belonging to the Greater London Council are to be transferred to the London boroughs in which they are situated, Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced in a statement. The GLC will be required to bring the properties up to acceptable standards.

Mr Heseltine (Henley, C) said: In May, 1980, the Greater London Council requested me to make an order under Section 23(3) of the London Government Act, 1963, transferring the council's housing stock in the London boroughs of Brent, Camden, Hackney, Haringey, Hounslow, Lambeth, Lewisham, and Waltham Forest to the borough councils. These boroughs were unwilling to accept the transfer of the stock. In these circumstances the Act required me to consult the boroughs before reaching a decision.

There have been intensive consultations. I am now satisfied that it is right for the housing to be managed at borough level. I also believe that terms can be determined which will not only enable the stock to be assimilated smoothly but will also lead to more effective housing management in London. My department is today conveying this decision to the borough councils.

I shall be making an order transferring the stock to the borough councils on April 1, 1982, and intend to lay it before Parliament in the near future. The order will take into account the boroughs' views on the GLC's proposals, and in particular will impose an obligation on the GLC to bring the property up to an acceptable standard over 10 years.

The needs for housing mobility in London have changed considerably. The GLC's own mobility scheme for the transferred stock, together with the inter-borough nomination scheme, which is now to be part of the national mobility scheme, provides an adequate framework for meeting these needs, without the necessity to retain the GLC as a housing management authority.

These transfers, together with those taking place by agreement, will largely fulfil the recommendations of the Herbert commission in 1960 that, to the fullest possible extent, council housing in London should be owned and managed locally by the borough councils.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment (Manchester, Ardwick, Lab): The statement conceals more than it reveals. How many dwellings are being transferred?

When he refers to property being brought up to acceptable standards, is that Parker-Morris standard to which these houses were originally built, or what is an acceptable standard? Will he, the GLC, or the boroughs decide it?

He says he is satisfied it is right that the houses be managed at borough level after intensive consultations, is that still being done against the wishes of the boroughs?

What is the reaction of the GLC to his arrangements? Is it true the GLC has asked him for guarantees that their housing investment programme allocation will be arranged in such a way to ensure they have the £450m which they estimate is necessary to bring these houses up to an acceptable standard?

Has the GLC asked for an assurance that grant-related expenditure will be adjusted in such a way to free them from the penalties of the taper they could incur because of the increased expenditure necessary on these houses.

Will the housing investment programme of the receiving boroughs be adjusted to take account of the consequential costs that will face them? Will rate support grant allocation for the Greater London boroughs be hypothecated and the housing revenue account adjusted to take account of the increased costs of administration that will face the receiving boroughs? (Conservative protests and shouts of "Too long".)

This information is not in the statement. Will Mr Heseltine say whether the housing subsidy of these boroughs will be adjusted to ensure that the base amount is not artificially reduced in future financial years?

Finally, this is a gross political manoeuvre. He is deliberately bringing this order before the House before the possible change in the political control of the GLC on May 7, when a Labour-controlled GLC would not wish for these arrangements at all.

Mr Heseltine: Mr Kaufman knows full well this process has been going on for 20 years. The GLC has been considering this policy and working on it since 1977 and during a significant part of their time when Mr Peter Shore was responsible for my department.

The number of houses to be transferred is 53,428. The standards to which they will maintain are the 10-point standard applicable to improvement grant applications. The programme will be carried out over 10 years and that should lead to a situation where housing would then have an expected life of 30 years minimum.

Is the order against the wishes of the boroughs? Of course, it is a compulsory order and it is put forward in that context. The rest of the houses were transferred—the 163,000 to 24 boroughs—on a voluntary basis. This represents the last part of the programme in order to complete the exercise.

There have been long discussions with the GLC about the various terms upon which the transfers take place because I have to put the order through the House and satisfy myself about the terms. I had to have discussions in order to bring that to a satisfactory conclusion.

The GLC have made requests of me, but the terms of the requests they have made would assume I am able to give commitments about housing investment programme allocations for years to come. That is quite without precedence and I cannot do it.

The housing needs of the boroughs and the GLC in light of the block grant and HIP allocations will reflect their statutory duties which will include responsibility for transfer of houses.

The House should feel this will give a logical conclusion to that recommendation of 20 years ago that it is desirable that housing should be administered as close as possible to the people who live in those areas.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab): Can he tell Lewisham how it is going to find nearly £1m necessary to equalize the existing rents of the GLC with the rents of Lewisham?

Why has he chosen this time to give a slap in the face to his friend Sir Horace Cutler in refusing to give any of the guarantees to the people of London that these houses will be kept up to the standards which he is making it a statutory duty of the GLC to bring them up to?

Mr Heseltine: The leader of the GLC has requested me to make these orders and he fully understands I am not able to commit this Government or any future government over 10 years with the degree of precision behind his question.

On rents, Lewisham will have to take the essential decisions about subsidy and they will have to decide how to phase their new tenants in with their existing tenants.

Mr Bruce Douglas-Mann (Merton, Mitcham and Morden, Lab): There is no housing case whatsoever for what he is proposing. The order is political because many of the outer London boroughs did not wish to relieve the housing stress of the inner London boroughs. It is to excuse them from that obligation that the whole of the greater London housing management scheme is being abolished.

Mr Heseltine: His analysis does not stand up to investigation particularly because six out of 14 Labour boroughs have accepted the voluntary transfer of stock.

Mr John Wilkinson (Hillingdon, Ruislip-Northwood, C): Can he confirm it will not be possible without legislation for the GLC to acquire land for housing purposes and to acquire it by voluntary purchase powers?

Mr Heseltine: There are no changes in the statutory powers of the GLC involved in what I have announced. With the transfer of a very substantial part of the housing organization of GLC it might be proper to have a review of the GLC housing powers but nothing I have announced today should prejudge the issue.

Mr Ronald Brown (Hackney, South and Shoreditch, Lab): Since Sir Horace Cutler found out about the enormous costs involved he has asked the Secretary of State not to transfer these properties. Mr Heseltine is misleading the House.

Mr Heseltine: If Sir Horace Cutler should ask me to withdraw this compulsory order I would be prepared to do it.

Mr Toby Jessel (Richmond upon Thames, Twickenham, C): Will any housing stock remain under the control of the GLC and, if so, what sort of quantity?

Mr Heseltine: A small number of houses will remain, largely concentrated in Thamesmead.

Mr David Alton (Liverpool, Edge Hill, L): This is another example of the high-handed attitude in which he deals with local government. His attitude on consultation seems to be: "Tell them what I think and do nothing about what they think."

What consultation has he had with the tenants who have to live on the estates?

Mr Heseltine: The GLC was elected on this programme. It is their housing. They are entitled to see that policy carried through.

During the course of the last four years they have had widespread consultation with the local authorities concerned. The majority of them, including a significant number of Labour authorities, have reached voluntary agreement.

We are now left with eight, but the bulk in the period when consultation was available were not prepared to get involved in the consultation process.

That is what has forced me to come to a conclusion on this matter and to ask the House to act.

Interfering with cars a custodial offence

When the report stage of the Criminal Attempts Bill was considered Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State, Home Office, moved a new clause (Offences of attempt under other enactments) and a series of Government amendments which he said were designed to remove from the scope of the Bill offences which were triable only summarily.

Mr Mayhew (Royal Tunbridge Wells, C) said the law at present was generally held to preclude the charge of attempt in respect of summary offences, except where the attempt itself was specifically penalized by statute. Under the changes it would not be an offence to attempt to commit a summary offence.

The new clause and amendments were agreed to.

Mr George Cunningham, an Opposition spokesman on home affairs, (Islington, South and Finsbury, Lab) moved the first of a series of amendments to delete from the Bill the new offence of interference with a motor vehicle or trailer.

He said the amendments embraced three different subjects. Should the new offence be put on the statute book at all? If it were, should it be an offence for which the penalty of imprisonment could be awarded? Should it be committable only in a public place or anywhere at all?

A public place was differently defined for different purposes on the statute book, but in this Bill it was a place where the person in question was a trespasser at the time.

The present offence of tampering with a vehicle could be committed in a public place or a parking place provided by a local authority.

He would draw the line at a private driveaway but he accepted that there was difficulty in defining it and had concluded that if this was to be an offence, it should be one anywhere.

There should be some disincentive against the police using the offence too much, when they should use the more serious charge of attempted theft. Lack of custodial sentence might be that disincentive.

Mr Patrick Mayhew, said the Government believed that the new offence represented a useful crime-fighting tool in the hands of the police. Having paid a lot of attention to the evidence it was given about the high incidence of what was called opportunist street crime against vehicles, it believed that it could not afford to leave the gap here unfilled.

Without the power to imprison there would be no means by which magistrates could make a convicted person the subject of a community service order or a detention centre order. Those could only be made in the case of imprisonable offences.

They did not accept these amendments which would prevent magistrates' courts from imposing sentences of imprisonment in appropriate cases.

Mr Percy Grieve (Solihull, C) said he sometimes wondered whether some Labour MPs were more deeply concerned for the criminal than for his victims. This clause defended those whose cars were constantly at risk of the depredations of criminally-minded persons.

The amendment was rejected by 135 votes to 100—Government majority, 35.

The report stage was concluded and the Bill read the third time.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Remaining stages of the British Telecommunications Bill.

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: Debate on consultative document on trade union immunities. Debate on third London airport. paper series.

Petrol tax

Mr Peter Rees, Minister of State, Treasury, said in a written reply: It is estimated that an increase of 1p a gallon in the price of petrol would increase net VAT receipts by about £5m in a full year.

Tax reckoner

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, said in a written reply: I intend to publish an updated tax change ready reckoner, in the normal way, as a supplement to a forthcoming economic progress report.

Problems of second and holiday homes

A move to alleviate the problems caused by second and holiday Homes is contained in the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 (Amendment) Bill which Mr Dafydd Wigley (Caerarvon, Pl Cymru) was given leave to introduce. The Bill would amend the Act in relation to the definition of "material change of use of buildings" for development and control purposes.

Mr Wigley said extensive publicity had been given to arson attacks on second homes in Wales over the past 15 months during which time 40 to 50 second homes had suffered fire attacks.

I and my party (he said) in no way condone such actions. We condemn violence in all forms. The burning down of houses cannot solve the housing problem.

He was not advocating steps that would try and eliminate second or holiday homes. There were many houses in his area remote from towns and villages in which local people did not wish to reside and it was perfectly reasonable they should be used as holiday homes.

Today, March 31, was a significant day. For many people in Gwynedd it was the last day of their winter lets. They were now expected to clear out their homes which they had rented for the winter in order that the owners could let the houses at rents local people could not afford to the holiday market.

There were strong feelings when there existed side by side an abundance of housing stock that stood empty for large parts of the year while there were families in the same vicinity that could not get a roof over their heads.

The Bill would allow the local planning authority in certain areas to define as material change of use the conversion of a house from a first home to a second or holiday home. The power should be made available to local planning authorities in those areas where a problem was seen to exist—national parks, areas of outstanding natural beauty and other areas designated by the Secretary of State.

The Bill did not purport to solve the second home problem. It dealt only with controlling a further escalation of the problem.

The Bill was read a first time.

Plans to control fishing grounds

For too long the fishing industry had had to operate in an atmosphere of uncertainty because of the difficulties in negotiating a satisfactory common fisheries policy, the Earl of Mansfield, Minister of State for Scotland, said moving the second reading of the Fisheries Bill which has passed through the Commons.

He said the Bill covered a wide range of matters including establishing a Sea Fish Industry Authority, powers to provide financial aid to the industry, effective measures for the conservation of fish stocks, and measures for fish farming and the conservation of whales.

It was something of a mixed bag, but each section of the Bill reflected the Government's determination to do all in its power to provide a framework within which the interests of the fishing industry could be protected and its rational development could be fostered.

The Government would continue to make every endeavour to reach an overall agreement on the common fisheries policy this spring. Britain looked to its partners in the Community to approach further negotiation in a similar positive spirit to the advantage of the Community as a whole.

This Bill would provide a means whereby the Government could continue to develop the support which it gave to the industry.

Lord Peart (Lab), for the Opposition, said the industry had welcomed the Bill and he hoped it would become a milestone in the history of the fishing industry.

He congratulated the Government for giving £25m worth of aid to the industry on top of the £37m granted previously.

There were still problems in the Community. Britain had to face the intransigence of the French Government. The Government should continue to be firm. Britain should continue to play its part in Europe, but the Government must see that its interests were fully protected. In the end the countries of Europe would basically accept Britain's approach.

Lord Campbell of Croy (C) said that licensing would have to play a part in the fishing arrangements in the EEC and entry into the industry and participation in it must be controlled. The catching power was too great to have a free-for-all.

Lady Hornsby-Smith (C) said there was deep concern that the fuel costs of British fishermen were greatly higher than those of their competitors abroad. That was one of the reasons why deep sea fishermen had been less able to take advantage of the quotas allowed them in the Canadian fishing grounds.

Viscount Massereene and Ferrard (C) said that as a means of conservation, quotas would be useless because people would cheat. From his experience of the French, they would be the worst cheaters. There were only to be 40 inspectors through the whole of the EEC. That was absurd. There should certainly be 400. This was a good Bill, but until there was a common fisheries policy it did not have much practicality.

The Earl of Mansfield, on the control of fishing effort by other countries, said: We in Britain are always mindful of the fact that we obey all the rules and the foreigners do not obey any of them. The Government has given close attention to the need to have effective controls.

Once the common fisheries policy has been settled and agreed, detailed procedures are being worked out which will regulate fishing activity. Each member state will be responsible for enforcing the regulations in its own waters.

The national legislation we will need to enforce the law against the vessels of nations fishing within United Kingdom fishery limits has been the subject of a lot of Government thought. The powers already taken in the Bill should be added to our armoury to carry out these functions in the future.

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Mr Peter Walker) had obtained the agreement of the Community to the setting up of a monitoring force of inspectors. They would have the duty of ensuring that member states were carrying out their enforcement responsibilities effectively, fairly and without discrimination between the fishermen of different member states.

Forest of Dean will not be sold

A new clause to impose upon the purchaser of Forestry Commission land and any subsequent purchaser a covenant forcing him to maintain a stockproof boundary fence on and around the purchase was moved by Mr Mark Hughes, an Opposition spokesman on agriculture, on report stage of the Forestry Bill.

Mr Hughes (Durham, Lab) said that he was not seeking to inhibit the ability of the Forestry Commission, under the orders of the Secretary of State, to sell forest land for any purpose.

The new clause stemmed from a gentlemen's agreement entered into from 1956 between the National Farmers' Unions of England and Wales that although not legally required to maintain a stockproof fence, the commission undertook to do so at its own expense.

There was no evidence that the agreement had caused major cost in efficient working to the commission.

The new clause would not undermine the principle of the Bill. It would be a major relief to many farmers throughout England and Wales.

Mr Jerry Wiggin, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Weston-super-Mare, C), said fence maintenance under the gentlemen's agreement was not in itself desperately expensive but as time went by fences would collapse and need renewing.

It was now costing the Forestry Commission £500,000 a year to replace fences under the gentlemen's agreement. Yet there was no contractual or legal obligation involved.

If the new clause were to be accepted there would be a legal involvement for all time and it would be an expensive commitment to the buyer. A purchaser would be required to maintain a stockproof fence whether there was a need or not.

In disposing of land the commission would pass on all obligations currently running with it but it would not be right to put a condition of this kind on a buyer simply because the land was not publicly owned.

The new clause was rejected by 274 votes to 206—Government majority, 68.

Mr Paul Marland (West Gloucestershire, C), moving an amendment to except the Royal Forest of Dean from the provision that the minister might dispose for any purpose land acquired under section 39 of the Forestry Act, 1967, said it was steeped in history and tradition. Today's forester was of the same independent mind and rugged character as his forefathers were years ago. It was the duty of the House to preserve his ancient rights and traditions.

The Forest of Dean was a national asset and in some ways a national monument. Every year thousands of people spent their holidays in the district, but if the forest was sold to a faceless investor they could be denied the right of access to it they currently enjoyed.

Mr Mark Hughes, an Opposition spokesman on agriculture, said they were seeking to protect some of the most beautiful woodlands in the United Kingdom.

Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said that under present legislation the day-to-day management of such areas involved the transfer of property. The amendment would preclude such sales which had taken place as part of the ordinary management of the estate.

The Forestry Commission had no intention whatsoever of selling off the Forest of Dean. There was not the slightest danger of anyone seeking to buy the forest.

The commission had been good stewards of the Forest of Dean. The Bill was really only necessary because of a legal technicality. It would not alter the commission's intention towards the forest. There was no intention to dispose of large tracts of land there or in the New Forest.

The amendment was rejected by 267 votes to 212—Government majority, 55.

Under the Forestry Bill as drafted a government could sell the entire forestry estate of the Forestry Commission, Mr William Benyon (Buckingham, C) said in moving an amendment seeking to limit the enabling power given to the minister by the Bill. The amendment was rejected by 279 votes to 164—Government majority, 115, and the report stage concluded.

Mr Jerry Wiggin, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food, moving the third reading, said the heart of the Bill was in Clause 1 which provided ministers with the power to sell land. Modest proposals were being looked at carefully.

The Government strongly denied that it was asset stripping or seeking to destroy the Forestry Commission.

Mr Bruce Millan, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland (Glasgow, Craigton, Lab), said virtually nobody had had a good word to say about it. Even the private forestry interests, who might have been expected to welcome a Bill of this nature, had been at best rather sceptical and in some respects rather fearful about the intentions behind it, particularly if it were to be used to dispose of a substantial part of the Forestry Commission enterprise.

The Bill was read the third time by 269 votes to 208—Government majority, 61.

Agnes Whitaker

An Easter parade of things to do

"We are for tomorrow's musicians today." So Derek Jewell wrote in his foreword to the 1980 Schools Prom Programme. He also talked of "the thousands upon thousands of young people up and down the country who are making music all the time, guided and encouraged by teachers and parents", and claimed the Schools Prom celebrates and is sustained by this phenomenon.

Where are tomorrow's artists today, though? I do not mean the Hockneys and Procktors of the 1990s, the isolated meteors, but the thousands of youngsters who are longing to be helped to observe things more closely, to draw or paint, to sculpt or make prints.

"Mum, how can I give this leg more muscle? How can I paint trees without doing every branch?" I cannot help him, and the odd few years when he has had fulfilling art at school have only accentuated the other desert years. I know no one near by to teach him, either, so he is stuck, frustrated.

It is no great problem with tiny children, happily indulging themselves with poster paints. More recently mine have enjoyed Scraperboard and Scraperfoil, and found continual delight in experimenting with those Rotring pens that graphic artists use. Charcoal occasionally, too, but that is about the extent of it.

We must not accept that art has to be the poor relation. Please would someone initiate some marvellous art lectures on television for children? Families do not want an academic art pundit, thank you, unless he really understands what inspires children. On the other hand we do not need a chap to tell us how to make yet more objets out of loo rolls. We need someone who is not afraid to be a popularizer and who will fire children to look more closely, feel more deeply and venture further in their art.

Of course there are technical problems, and the finished product will not quite satisfy anyone, but that is no reason to funk the challenge.

Easter Lectures

The Institution of Structural Engineers now hold their annual lecture for children at Easter rather than Christmas. How wise. Weather hazards, traffic jams and masses of fixtures in family diaries make Christmas lectures a real effort for many. This year the Institution's lecture is called "A New Grandstand for Twickenham". Jan Bobrowski will give it on Wednesday April 22 at 2.30 pm. Free tickets from the Secretary, Institution of Structural Engineers, 11 Upper Belgrave St., London SW1. Tel 01-235-4535.

Mr John Stevenson will give the Science Museum Easter Lectures on "The Science of Detection" (April 18, 20, 21, 22 & 23 at 3 pm in the Large Theatre). Tickets from the Education Service.

Wave Machines

Families who have not sampled artificial waves in swimming pools might like to know where to find them. In London they are at the White City Pool and the Elephant and Castle Leisure Centre. Other pools in the south are the Lee Valley Park Lido, Broxbourne, and the Oasis at Swindon. Farther north you will find wave machines at the Herringthorpe Leisure Centre, Rotherham, Temple Park Leisure Centre, South Shields, Growtree Leisure Centre, Sunderland, and Whitley Bay Leisure Pool.

Brass rubbing

Brass rubbing is booming. No wonder: almost every age group can rub brasses with a satisfying result. Even five and six year-olds can do it with help.

Rubbing facsimile brasses has some advantages over rubbing the real ones. You are less likely to become numbed with cold, you have more choice of brasses in the one place, and the expert staff will help you. At Easter brass rubbing centres will not be quite so awash with foreign tourists as in August, either. The cost of doing it varies according to the brass you choose.

The biggest choice of brasses in the world is in Westminster Abbey Cloisters (enter via Deans's Yard). It is open Mon-Sat 10-5.30 (tel 01-222 2085). Another good one is at St James's, Piccadilly, Mon-Sat 10-6, Sun 12-6 (tel 01-437 6023).

Historycraft (formerly Brass Rubbing Centres) of Cripps Road, Cirencester (tel 0285 3971), runs a huge network. In 1981 they will have centres at Oxford, Stratford-on-Avon, York, Chester, Manchester, Bristol, Edinburgh, Winchester, Coventry, Marlborough, Nottingham, Durham, Chichester, Machynlleth, Hereford, Falmouth, Salisbury, Bournemouth, Lynton, Martham (Norfolk), Cirencester and Bowness. Check opening dates and times with Historycraft.

Finally there are two mobile brass rubbing centres. If you live fairly near Hassocks, Sussex, and can gather a group of children, Mrs Linn will visit you with some of her brasses. She charges £7 plus petrol plus 70p a rubbing (tel Hassocks 2153). Further north ring Mrs Grimmer in Sheffield (tel Sheffield 661956).

Illustration by Bill Sanderson

What can I do, Mum?

That perennial moan. If there is any money left for fares and entrance fees, London children could ring Kidsline for suggestions. Their number is 01-222 8070. They are open 9am-4pm on five days a week between April 15 and May 4 (including Good Friday and Easter Monday), but not Saturdays and Sundays. They do try especially hard to find out about activities that will appeal to 12-15 year olds, for whom many children's activities are too juvenile.

Another solace that has perhaps been neglected in recent years is patience (the card games, not the virtue). *The Penguin Book of Patience* (£1.75) is well worth buying. Apart from listing, and lucidly explaining, masses of games, it does indicate the most difficult and most satisfying ones. It was joyous to rediscover the maths patience which involves multiplying, adding and subtracting. Look it up under *Senior Wrangler*, a grandiose name that smells of ancient honours boards in public schools. We called it *Student* — much more straightforward.

Museums & galleries

London

Very small children might enjoy the exhibition at the Horniman Museum called "Jakobshaven, a Town in Greenland". There is a scene showing fishing for halibut through an ice hole, a sledge and seven huskies, with accompanying slide-shows. The Horniman is running workshops called "The Bear in the Ice Hole" on April 22 and 23, and boomerang workshops for families on April 11. Tickets are required for both.

If the family wants a choice of activities in central London over the Easter holiday, some could go to the new exhibition at the Museum of Mankind, "Asante, Kingdom of Gold", which should suit all age groups, and costs nothing, while others could rub brasses near by at St James's, Piccadilly (*see brass rubbing section*).

Did you know the London Transport Museum is open on Sunday mornings? Their regular weekend film shows will be extended to cover Good Friday and Easter Monday, while on Easter Saturday, Sunday and Monday visitors will be able to ride model trains. A transport quiz, with prizes, will run throughout the holidays.

The Geffrye Museum have an ambitious and varied programme of workshops and events between April 21 — May 2 on the theme "Dear Diary". Phone the museum for details. At the Gunnersbury Park Museum there is a puppet show on Easter Monday and an exhibition of circus posters. The Museum of London have laid on Punch & Judy shows by John Styles on April 22, 23 & 24 (11.30, 1 pm & 3 pm, no tickets required). There are also art activities for a limited number of children on those three days. Write beforehand.

The National Gallery quizzes, entitled "Weightwatchers", are all about food. They run from March 30 to May 3. There is also a big art competition called "I see, I paint".

A new exhibition opens on April 18 at the National Maritime Museum, about the fishing industry. It is free of charge, and will stay open about a year. Holiday films are being shown on April 16, 21, 23, 28 & 30.

April 18-25 is National Astronomy Week, and a new exhibition on Uranus will open at Flamsteed House, Greenwich. The big day is April 25, when there will be special planetarium programmes and an exhibition in the dome of the 28in telescope (not normally open to the public). On April 28, 29 & 30 there are limited places for a "Planetography" event, where visitors can test telescope skills at simulated planets, talk to astronomers and paint "spacescapes".

Your last chance to see the colourful exhibition of "Art from Africa" at the Commonwealth Institute is on April 5. The Secret Army exhibition at the RAF Museum, "Britain at bay" at the Imperial War Museum and the superb drawings exhibition at the V & A all close on April 26, and "Challenge of the Chip" at the Science Museum has its last day on May 5.

Opening on April 8 is the big exhibition of historic ballet costumes at the V & A.

Outside London

A new children's gallery is opening at the Mappin, Sheffield, with work by and for children. The first exhibition there is called "Toys, Toys, Toys". The Sheffield galleries have a brass rubbing workshop on April 4, a 3-day project called "Making Faces", a showing of *The Lord of the Rings* film and weekend drawing and painting classes for adults and teenagers. Sam Smith's painted carvings are also on exhibition. It all sounds pretty tantalizing.

Under-fives are catered for at Norwich Castle on April 8, and Birmingham Museum on April 27. There are five workshops at Blakesley Hall, Yardley, and three at Birmingham Nature Centre. Ask Birmingham Museum about both these and their own William Morris workshops.

There are spinning and weaving workshops at Bradford Industrial Museum and a local pottery course at Cliffe Castle, Keighley. Both courses are on April 22, 23, 24.

The National Museum of Wales have their usual informal activities and some natural science films (April 13-16, 20-24). Activities at Derby Museum are for physically and mentally handicapped children this time, though there *is* a holiday quiz for everyone.

There is plenty happening at the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh. At Haggs Castle, Glasgow, the exhibition of children's fashions, 1870-1980, will be a draw, and there are 13 workshops, mostly with an Easter flavour. Easter egg-rolling is planned on April 16 at Cusworth Hall, Doncaster.

There is a fine varied programme of workshops at the Mersey County Museum, with free daily film shows. Films also at the Manchester Museum and an invitation to "Touch and Draw" museum objects. "Patterns, Palms, Paintings" is the title of the activity at the Athenaeum, Manchester, on April 13 & 14, while at Bantock House, Wolverhampton, the successful "Old Machines & Gadgets" workshop is being repeated on April 22 & 23.

Make sense of the census

In the month of the national census parents could bring it to life by starting family history projects.

Perhaps a new attitude to genealogy has emerged of late. In Victorian and Edwardian times many families spent an unhealthy proportion of time and energy on the subject, often emphasizing distant kinship with the famous or well-to-do and almost ignoring humbler close relations. Hardy the novelist was a classic case of this.

Some of the next generations ignored the subject altogether in disgust, but perhaps they missed the security of the roots as a result. Professional genealogists say their clients now are much readier to accept that some of their ancestors were inadequate, and some real bad hats.

Among three recent books on the subject, the cheapest is *Discovering Your Family Tree* by David Iredale (Shire Books, 95p). It is solid reading, despite its slim size, and not really for children. *My Family Tree Book* by Eileen Totten (Evans Bros, £2.95) is a big paperback with spaces to write and stick in photos. *The Family History Book* by Stella Colwell (Phaidon, £9.95) aims to give practical advice to beginners wondering which sources to search.

Children's Books

Do we really need another review ?

Apparently the Arts Council has been asked to put up some money to fund a proposed "national" journal for reviewing children's books. I cannot believe that the news will be well received by such bodies as the National Youth Theatre, who have recently fallen out of favour with the Council; on the other hand, given the present state of children's book reviewing, some might find the idea attractive.

The Council's name would give prestige to an enterprise which might otherwise be blighted by obscurity, and in return the community would benefit from a journal with the avowed aims of being "popular and wide-ranging".

But, you might think, there are enough journals with that purpose already. There are, for instance, what might be called the "official" periodicals that come from organizations with some sort of professional backing: *Books For Your Children*, which calls itself "the only magazine specially designed for parents"; *Junior Bookshelf*, a venerable, but now obsolescent, magazine — the *Blackwood's* of children's literature; *The School Librarian*, official journal of the School Library Association; *The Times Educational Supplement*, which carries notices of children's books every week, and which also publishes additional review sections periodically; and *The Times Literary Supplement*, which runs a regular quarterly inset on children's books (the latest was published last Friday).

Then there are what might be called the "sponsored" journals such as *Books For Keeps*, the magazine of the School Bookshop Association, which is supported by Lloyd's Bank; and *Children's Book Bulletin*, which bravely scorns advertisements and has benefited from contributions from the Gulbenkian Foundation and others.

Finally, there are the unpretentious magazines put together by enthusiasts such as *Bookmark*, a duplicated broadsheet from the Moray House College of Education; *Bookworm*, a review journal edited for children themselves; and *Growing Point*, a magazine which Margery Fisher has single-handedly written and published for the past 20 years.

How then, amid all his apparent plenty, can a case be made for yet another review journal? It could be said, I suppose, that some of the above publications are too sectarian (*Children's Book Bulletin*, for instance, while publishing extensive and stimulating reviews, which are forcefully argued, is often swayed by a puritanic desire to root out racialism, classism, sexism and the cult of Robertson's Golliwog marmalade from works that are innocent of all such pernicious tendencies).

It could also be said — more usefully — that several others are not so much journals of review as of promotion. For the discussion of children's books is constantly hampered by an emotional belief that negative criticism should be shunned, lest it result in some poor fledgling being deprived of healthy nourishment. Commentators and publishers should all work together to spread glad tidings about the books, regardless of their quality. In consequence, magazines for beginners, like *Books For Keeps* or *Books For Your Children*, are almost entirely taken up with comradely gush, while even apparently august journals like *The School Librarian* fill much of their restricted space with platitudes.

It is just this penchant for the neighbourly and the bland that raises doubts about the value of any additional journal devoted to "popular and wide-ranging" purposes. We can see in the columns of the *TES* and the *TLS* hints of how beneficial a stricter and dispassionate criticism may be. And we can see in Margery Fisher's *Growing Point* a wonderfully resolute, consistent and, above all, readable body of reviews. (Indeed, if the Arts Council really has got some money lying around for children's book reviewing it should give it all to Margery Fisher for the sustained and perceptive attention which she has paid for so long to so many often depressingly trivial books.)

What Margery Fisher demonstrates so admirably in *Growing Point* is that critics are not absolved from giving a book serious consideration just because it is for children, and it seems to me that any new venture into the minefield of children's book reviewing needs to follow this lead — avoiding comfortable popularity and digging deep rather than ranging wide.

Apart from anything else, with the axe-man at the door, it is time that the professional buyers of children's books were encouraged to look more rigorously at some of the stuff on which they are spending our money. Whether the editorial and critical talent exists for such an exercise is another matter — as is the question of whether any new review should be brought into being with the quasi-official endorsement of state patronage.

Brian Alderson

Addresses and annual subscription rates of magazines mentioned:

Bookmark (3 issues per annum) Moray House College, Holyrood Road, Edinburgh. £1.20.

Bookworm (4 p.a.) 4 Overdell Drive, Healey Gardens, Rochdale, Lancashire. £1.20.

Books For Keeps (6 p.a.) 1 Effingham Road, Lee, London, SE12. £4.50.

Books For Your Children (3 p.a.) Slate House Farm, Parwich, Ashbourne, Derby. £2.50

Children's Book Bulletin (3 p.a.) 4 Aldebert Terrace, London, SW8. £1.80.

Growing Point (6 p.a.) Ashton Manor, Northampton. £3.00.

Junior Bookshelf (6 p.a.) Marsh Hall, Thurstonland, Huddersfield. £3.00.

The School Librarian (4 p.a.) Victoria House, 29 George Street, Oxford. £12.50 (non-members).

The Times Educational Supplement (35p weekly).

The Times Literary Supplement (40p weekly).

The right approach to cases of unfair dismissal

Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians v Brain

Before Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Donaldson and Lord Justice Oliver

[Judgment delivered March 26]

The Court of Appeal upheld the finding of an industrial tribunal that a trade union had acted unreasonably in treating as a ground for dismissal the refusal of its publications officer to sign an undertaking required as part of the settlement of a libel action to which the union and he were defendants, where he had not been consulted about the terms of the settlement.

Their Lordships dismissed an appeal by the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians from the Employment Appeal Tribunal (Mr Justice Talbot) which had affirmed the industrial tribunal's decision that the officer, Mr Gary Arthur Brain, had been unfairly dismissed on July 23, 1979.

Mr Frederic Reynold for the union; Mr Geoffrey Robertson for Mr Brain.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON said that Mr Brain was responsible for certain functions in the production of the union's journal *Viewpoint*. The union general secretary, now dead, who had full control over the journal, had an article written defamatory of *Construction News*, which circulated among employers and managers, and instructed Mr Brain to publish it. A writ was issued against Mr Brain and the printers of *Viewpoint*. The union solicitor accepted service. The union decided to pay any damages and costs that might be awarded against Mr Brain, and in those circumstances the solicitor, in good faith, regarded the union as his client and not Mr Brain. A settlement of the action was approved by the union executive without consultation with Mr Brain. The terms of the settlement required an undertaking by the defendants, Mr Brain and the printers, not to publish further, either by themselves or by their officers, servants or agents, the pleaded or any similar libels upon the plaintiffs. Mr Brain, after consulting the legal officer of his own union, declined to give the undertaking as he felt that it might make him liable for the acts of the union's officers over whom he had no control. When he refused a second time, after consulting a solicitor, he was summarily dismissed. An industrial tribunal upheld his claim for unfair dismissal on the ground that though the order to sign the undertaking was lawful, his refusal to sign was not unreasonable. The Employment Appeal Tribunal dismissed the union's appeal.

The matter had to be looked at against the general background. His Lordship had no hesitation in saying that the employers had acted most unreasonably in ordering Mr Brain to sign the undertaking. They had intermeddled in his action. They had done it as good employers in what they thought were his best interests, but it was Mr Brain's action, he was going to have judgment given against him, and it was he who, in the apology which was to be printed, was going to be held up as a journalist who had published defamatory statements. The employers should have appreciated that they were asking him to do something that they had no right to ask him to do. They could have told him that they would not support him financially if he did not sign but they had no business to ask him to sign the undertaking.

He would dismiss the appeal.

LORD JUSTICE DONALDSON, agreeing, said that in considering a claim for unfair dismissal the starting point was always section 57(3) of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act, 1979. It operated in three steps. First the employer had to show why he dismissed the employee. That was no great burden, for the employer must know why.

Next he had to show that his reason fell within one of the four categories set out in subsection (2) or that it was "some other substantial reason of a kind such as to justify the dismissal of an employee holding the position which the employee held" (subsection (1)(b)). All that was required was that the tribunal should consider whether, looking at the matter broadly and giving the words their ordinary meaning, the reason for the dismissal fell within one or other of those five categories.

In the third stage the tribunal asked the question: "Has the employer satisfied us that in the circumstances (having regard to equity and the substantial merits of the case) he acted reasonably in treating his conduct as a sufficient reason for dismissing the employee? Whether someone acted reasonably was always a question of fact. Where Parliament had directed a tribunal to have regard to equity—which meant common fairness and not a particular part of the law—and to the substantial merits of the case, the tribunal's duty was plain. It had to look at the question in the round and without regard to lawyers' technicalities. It had to look at it in an employment and industrial relations context, not in that of the Temple or Chancery Lane. It should therefore be very rare for any decision of an industrial tribunal to give rise to any question of law. That was what Parliament plainly intended. Where Parliament had given to tribunals so wide a discretion appellate courts, including the Employment Appeal Tribunal, should be very slow to find that the tribunal had erred in law.

It was now nearly 10 years since it was pointed out in *Earl v Slater & Wheeler (Airlyne) Ltd* ([1972] ICR 508) that the reasonableness or otherwise of an employer's conduct must depend on what he knew or ought to have known when he dismissed the employee. It was four years since that was affirmed by the House Lords in *Devis & Sons Ltd Atkins* ([1977] ICR 662). The was clear and his Lordship pected that all tribunals knew i

Mr Reynold submitted the tribunal did not know law, or had failed to apply because it focused on the rea ableness of the employee's duct rather than the employ But when the conduct complai of was refusal to obey an inst tion the primary factor to considered by the employer whether the employee was could have been acting reason in refusing to obey the ins tion. Here the tribunal was ting itself in the position of reasonable employer and as itself the question which reasonable employer would asked himself. It concluded it could not have dismissed Brain. His Lordship could se answer to that approach.

Mr Reynold's criticism was placed. The reasons trib gave were not intended to inc a comprehensive and det analysis of the case either in or in law. They were inte to tell the parties why they or won. If they disclosed a stantial error of law, an appe court would intervene; bu should be very slow to assum error of law because of fa to make an express finding or out of many relevant matte fact.

On the facts of the present his Lordship was satisfied there was no error. The r was that Mr Brain had an whelming case.

His Lordship commented o position of claimants who ceeded in front of industrial t nals and got carried on to Employment Appeal Tribunal the Court of Appeal, even per to the House of Lords. For stance, Mr Brain was dism in July, 1979. In December, the industrial tribunal de that he had been unfairly missed but adjourned the que of compensation. Then employers appealed to the Em ment Appeal Tribunal, an March, 1981, the Court of A heard their further appeal. that time Mr Brain had been out any compensation, although the appeal had now dismissed the matter of comp tion had to be agreed by parties or decided by the i trial tribunal.

Apart from the real hard there was no power to awar Brain interest on his money Lordship thought that the time come when Parliament oug give consideration whether it really right that employees had been unfairly dismissed s not only have to wait for money but that when they di it they got it in depreciated rency and without interest.

Lort Justice Oliver deliver concurring judgment.

The appeal was dismissed.

Solicitors: Mr John L. Willi Bindman and Partners.

Contentious business agreements must be specific

Chamberlain v Boodle & King

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Dunn and Lord Justice O'Connor

A "contentious business agreement" between a solicitor and his client concerning the costs of contentious business may be contained in letters, but in order to satisfy the provisions of section 59(1) and 60(1) of the Solicitors Act, 1974, and deprive the client of the right to taxation (subject to section 61(1)) it must be signed by the client, all the terms of the agreement must be set out, and it must be sufficiently specific to tell the client what his position is with regard to costs.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by defendants, Messrs Boodle & King, a firm of solicitors, of Grosvenor Square, Westminster, from an order of Mr Justice Smith allowing the appeal of the plaintiff, Mr Bartlett Beardslee Chamberlain III, of New Orleans, United States, from Master Elton, who had refused to order that the solicitors' bills of costs should be taxed on the ground that there was a "contentious business agreement" between the parties within the meaning of section 59(1).

Mr Justice Smith had made no order on costs, and a cross-appeal by Mr Chamberlain against the judge's refusal to make any order was dismissed.

By section 59(1) of the Solicitors Act ". . . a solicitor may make an agreement in writing with his client as to his remuneration in respect of any contentious business done, or to be done, by him (in this Act referred to as a 'contentious business agreement') providing that he shall be remunerated by a gross sum, or by a salary, or otherwise, and whether at a higher or lower rate than that at which he would otherwise have been entitled to be remunerated".

Section 60 provides: "(1) Subject to the provisions of this section and to sections 61 to 63, the costs of a solicitor in any case where a contentious business agreement has been made shall not be subject to taxation or to the provisions of section 69."

Section 61 provides: "(1) No action shall be brought on any contentious business agreement, but on the application of any person who—(a) is a party to the agreement or the representative of such a party; or (b) is or is alleged to be liable to pay, or is or claims to be entitled to be paid, the costs due or alleged to be due in respect of the business to which the agreement relates, the court may enforce or set aside the agreement and determine every question as to its validity or effect. (2) On any application under subsection (1), the court—(a) if it is of the opinion that the agreement is in all respects fair and reasonable, may enforce it; (b) if it is of the opinion that the agreement is in any respect unfair or unreasonable, may set it aside and order the costs covered by it to be taxed as if it had never been made."

By section 69(1) no action may be brought to recover any costs due to a solicitor before the expiration of a month from the date when a bill for those costs has been delivered.

Mr Nicholas Strauss for the solicitors; Mr Jonathan Hirst for Mr Chamberlain.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that the question was whether there was a "contentious business agreement" so as to satisfy section 59 of the 1974 Act. If so, subject to sections 61 to 63, the client had no right to have the solicitors' bill taxed.

Mr Chamberlain, who at the end of 1978 was living in New Orleans, was in dispute with a Mr Peter Fitzgerald and other persons and there was litigation in the United States and here. He instructed Boodle & King and in particular their Mr Joseph Jaworski regarding work to be done.

On January 4, 1979, Boodle & King wrote to Mr Chamberlain: ". . . Boodle & King will bill you for its services on the basis of the standard hourly rates applicable to the particular attorneys or solicitors involved in the litigation. These rates range from £60 to £80 per hour for lawyers of partner status and from £30 to £45 per hour for associates who may be involved. These standard rates are reviewed for adjustment on a regular basis, ordinarily at the conclusion of the firm's financial year. Statements will be rendered . . . on a regular basis. . . . We would appreciate your sending to us . . . a retainer in the amount of £2,000. . . ."

On January 24 Mr Chamberlain replied: "I enclose a bank cheque for £1,000 sterling; this represents one half of the retainer payment you have requested. We will remit the balance within two weeks. . . ."

Boodle & King sent three bills: one on February 19, 1979, for £1,373.76; the second on March 20, 1979, for £12,040.58; the third on April 30, 1979, for £17,523.68; the second and third included previous balances. Before the final bill was sent in everything was settled, the litigation being ended by May 8. A final bill was sent in on May 11 for £30,099.49.

Mr Chamberlain claimed to have the bill taxed. He said that there was no contentious business agreement in writing. He was not at all polite. On May 16, 1979, he wrote a letter about the solicitors saying: "My dispute . . . has been settled, and the various attorneys and their minions are no doubt wringing their hands in collective disgust now that new fees and costs will not incurred through their ar efforts."

Did the two letters represe contentious business agreeme Authorities like *In re R* ((1881) 45 LT 742) and *Pon v Farnham* ((1892) 68 LT which went back to the 1870 showed that the agreement r be clear and represent the ag ment by both parties in wri to all the terms.

A contentious business ag ment could be contained in ters, but if so it had to be sig by the client if he was to be prived of his right to taxat The agreement must be su ciently specific to tell the cl what he was letting himself for with regard to costs.

The letter of January 4 did make it clear what the client letting himself in for. It refer to "£60 to £80 per hour for l yers of partner status", bu did not say which partner what was his standing—or w was the standing of the "a ciates" at "£30 or £45 hour". An hourly rate depen on the individual skill of the p ner or associate. A quick part could do the work in half time of a slow one. At a rate over £1 a minute there had be a good system of timin almost by stopwatch!

It was not a contentious b ness agreement. It was sim an indication of the rate of ch ing which would be made on bills. The client had not pressly agreed to the terms. was not a contentious busin agreement so as to satisfy sect 59(1) of the 1974 Act.

The question then arose whet the bills were four separate b or one whole bill for which client could demand taxat within one month. The court h been referred to *In re Romer Haslam* ([1893] 2 QB 286) a *Davidsons v Jones-Fenle* ((1980) 124 SJ 204). It was question of fact whether the had been a material break the work so that each part cou be dealt with separately.

His Lordship agreed with t judge that in the present ca there was one continuous peri and bills were rendered as part a current account. It should treated as one bill.

The judge had allowed t appeal but had ordered each si to pay its own costs. In exercis his discretion as to costs he h "acted on facts connected wi or leading up to the litigation (*The Supreme Court Practi* 1979), p 931). Mr Chamberlain h not paid the sums on accou which he had been asked to pa His letter of May 16 was not all an agreeable letter. The sol citors had done a first class pie of work and their charges mig be entirely fair and reasonabl The court should not interfe with the judge's order as to cost

The appeal and the cross-appe should be dismissed.

Lord Justice Dunn agreed.

LORD JUSTICE O'CONNOR also agreeing, said that the lette of January 4 and 24 were entire silent on the subject of disburs ments and did not set out an plan by which the client cou make any reasoned calculation a to what his monthly or quarter liability might be.

Solicitors: Boodle & King Middleton Potts & Co.

Criminal matter—no fee

Regina v Preston Justices, Ex parte Pamplin

The Divisional Court said that in a criminal matter no fees are payable when magistrates state a case for the opinion of the High Court. Their Lordships granted a declaration that no fees were payable under section 90 of the Magistrates' Courts Act, 1952, by the applicant, who had been convicted of offences under the Road Traffic Act, 1972, and the Police Act, 1964.

LORD JUSTICE ORMROD said that section 90 provided that "the clerk of a magistrates' court shall not be required to deliver the case to the applicant until the applicant has paid him the fees payable for the case". In Schedule 4, to the same Act, under the sub-heading "Case for the opinion of High Court" there was a list of the fees chargeable.

While in the Criminal Justice Act, 1967, the repeal schedule—Schedule 7—eliminated a number of matters in respect of which fees were previously payable in criminal matters, no reference was made to the sub-heading "Case for the opinion of High Court" in the 1952 Act. The justices and their clerk wrongly took the view that the sub-heading having been left standing in that Act, the appropriate fee could be demanded. The general provision in section 94 of the Act of 1967, that no fees should be chargeable by a justice's clerk in respect of any criminal matter, applied. No fees were chargeable in such a criminal matter as the present.

هكذا من الأصل

Welcome revival of Massenet's original innocence

endrillon
heâtre du Châtelet
aris

ohn Higgins

assenet's *Cendrillon*, first rformed at the Opéra mique in May, 1899, only just anages to squeeze into the stival of nineteenth-century ench opera given by the éâtre Musical de Paris. But rict chronology does not ways have to be observed: arpentier's *Louise*, which ened this brief and enterpris- g season, belongs to our own ntury in date if not in spirit. Massenet was in his mid- ties when he wrote *Cen- illon* and he was secure in fame and success. The ore exudes confidence and ntentment. It is by far the nderest and warmest of the usical versions of the Cin- rella story in the repertory day. By its side Rossini's *Cenerentola* looks quick- ver but distinctly *chill*: okofiev's ballet seems larky. assenet by contrast trades in e magic and *sentiment* of e pantomime and remains ithful to the spirit if not the ord of the Perrault fairy-tale hich inspired his music.

In *Cendrillon* there is no true ckedness. Cinderella's two ep-sisters are not ugly but mply greedy for a royal mar- ge. They receive encourage- ent in plenty from their other, Madame de la Haltière, o in Paris is given a marvel- usly robust performance right the Gingold tradition by the teran contralto Maureen rester. But even she cannot ep up the mask of venom for ng and at the end of the era gives Cinders, once she s won her *prince*, a big hug nd addresses her as "Ma lle".

The main departure made by lassenet's librettist, Henri ain, from Perrault is to turn inderella's fairy godmother om an old crone into a itania, accompanied by a pair curly-nobbed cherubs, who n achieve anything at the wave of a wand. She even arranges for Cendrillon and the Prince to meet in the forest following the ball, where after a love duet they are lulled to sleep in one another's arms by the spirits of the wood. The scene drew from Massenet some of his sweetest music and he also created a major role for La Fée, as she is called, a high coloratura part which was glitteringly sung by Ruth Welting.

Cain and Massenet also developed the relationship between Cendrillon and her father Pandolfe, a put-upon and hen-pecked figure who is regularly swept aside by his new wife and step-daughters. It is almost a Rigoletto-Gilda situation and there is more than a hint in the score that Cinderella is quite as fond of her father as she is of her new-found prince. In Act III, musically by far the strongest section of the opera, the two sing together of abandoning the rackety quarrellings of the Court and going back to the country life they once knew.

La, nous serons heureux
Bien heureux
Tous les deux
Le matin, nous irons, comme des amoureux
Cueillir les blanc muguets

Shades of Manon and Des Grieux! Louis Quilico, a baritone the rareness of whose appearances in Europe now is a matter for regret, with his rich and secure tones made Pandolfe into the most sympathetic of characters.

CBS, when they recorded *Cendrillon* a couple of years ago (Masterworks 79323) turned the Prince into a tenor (Gedda) and gave the title role to a mezzo (von Stade). Paris have returned to the original scoring and make the Prince a mezzo—or more properly a *falcon*—and Cinderella a soprano. Delia Wallis, a courtly figure with a fine mane of black hair, portrays the Prince as a bored creature, a cousin to Orlofsky in *Fledermaus* or the heir to the throne in Prokofiev's *The Love for Three Oranges*, waiting for some distraction to come along, which it does in the shape of Cendrillon. The role does not give Miss Wallis much chance to shine individually but she took her two love duets admirably and is, as Coliseum audiences know, well suited to travesti parts. Faith Esham, with her sweet, sad features, is an almost ideal Cendrillon. Like Rossini's Cenerentola, she has her lament by the fireside after everyone else has gone off to the ball, comparing herself to the cricket by the hearth ("Reste au foyer, petit grillon"). Her silvery soprano suggests that she would make a fine Manon and the name is certainly one to be noted for the future.

The slipper fits: Doré's illustration for the Perrault story; and Faith Eshem in the Paris production

The TMP's production has been borrowed, improbably, from Ottawa and it makes the neglect of Massenet's opera this side of the Atlantic seem shameful. Brian Macdonald, the director, began his career in the ballet and it shows not only in the ritual dances at the ball—Massenet's opportunity for eighteenth-century pastiche—but in the rapidity and precision of the movements throughout the evening. Henry Bardon's sets have the right fairy-tale enchantment, particularly that for the forest tryst. Jacques Delacôte, who has not so far been heard to best advantage in London, proves himself a Massenet conductor of class and sympathy.

In its all-round quality this *Cendrillon* is very much a festival production and John Drummond should be considering it for Edinburgh if he can find a stage to house it. Brian Macdonald will be back at the Châtelet to open the winter season with *The Merry Widow*, or rather *La Veuve joyeuse* as there are one or two textual changes. And now the theatre turns its attention to ballet.

LSO/Abbado
Festival Hall/Radio 3

William Mann

Last Saturday was the hundredth anniversary of the death of Modest Mussorgsky: Joan Chissell was able to lead our monthly records page, on the actual day, with her review of a new LSO Abbado disc devoted to that composer's music, much of it virtually unknown to present-day audiences. Last night the same forces celebrated the centenary on South Bank with a programme containing many of the same items.

The concert went beyond the record by including *Pictures at an Exhibition* in Ravel's orchestral transcription, a familiar showpiece for the London Symphony Orchestra, and its principal conductor. Predictably the LSO's heavy brass distinguished itself, as did the horns and the solo saxophone (Abbado sensibly omits the redundant bar that Ravel added to "The Old Castle"). With a tumultuous thunder-sheet donig duty for gong in "The Great Gate of Kiev", this made a rousing close to the concert.

A further bonus was the set of *Songs and Dances of Death*, given with Shostakovich's orchestral transcription of the piano accompaniments, yodelling horns for Death's "strange serenade", a fife and drum band for Field Marshal Death's address to his lifeless troops, and equally spirited horns for the "Trepak". Nicolai Ghiaurov was the singer, at first more restrained than expected (he was reading from the music), his high register in splendid condition, though, and the Field Marshal in the last song suitably authorative.

Beside Ravel and Shostakovich, the concert brought forward Rimsky-Korsakov as Mussorgsky's chief (indeed notorious) editorial intermediary, in the four choral items included also in Abbado's centenary disc. There was nothing here as gripping as the crowd choruses in *Boris Godunov* although the chorus of Priestesses from *Salammbô* has a sensuous beauty reminiscent of similar moments in *Khovanshchina*, and the Temple Scene from *Oedipus* (both operas are fragmentary) works its way to a stirring climax, with positive orchestral assistance.

The four orchestral pieces which began the concert were all unadulterated Mussorgsky. Of special value is the composer's own version of the tone-poem *St John's Night on Bald Mountain*, quite different in every respect from the well-known Rimsky-fied work, and for me much more individual and captivating. The symphonic intermezzo in B minor (not on the record) proved less appealing than Stasov's description of its origin in a peasant scene observed by Mussorgsky. But it was a happy, and revealing, commemoration.

Royal Ballet
Sadler's Wells

John Percival

To open its season at Sadler's Wells, the Royal Ballet last night showed three works created for that theatre. Three of the company's past or present choreographers were represented (no Ashton, how odd) and even the most recent of the ballets, Kenneth MacMillan's *Danses concertantes*, was first given more than a quarter of a century ago.

It has the same designer now as then, but the second thoughts which Nicholas Georgiadis and MacMillan had a year or two ago about the way the ballet should look converted it from a dated, mannered but chic individuality to a sleazy dowdiness. Even the bright, accurate dacing of Nicola Katrak, Susan Lucas and Roland Price in three of the solos could not overcome that disadvantage.

The orchestra, under Barry Wordsworth, played below its usual standard all evening, most of all in *The Rake's Progress*. Gavin Gordon's score is not one of the masterpieces of modern music, but its well crafted mixture of comedy, sentiment and pastiche can sound much better than it did this time.

Doreen Wells, back with the company on a guest engagement, played the betrayed girl: her first time in the role, I believe, and her dancing proved neat but not very expressive. Stephen Jefferies's gripping account of the rake deserved a better foil. David Bintley as the sailor and Denis Bonner as the jockey brightened small roles: but what has happened to the colour of the bawdyhouse dancer's stockings?

Ninette de Valois presumably supervized the revival of her choreography; someone needs to sharpen up production details of John Cranko's *Pineapple Poll*. Even so, this had the best all-round performance of the evening, in the pit and on stage, not least for Brenda Last's gloriously robust account of the title part.

There was an attractively lively spirit among the crew of HMS Hot Cross Bun, and no less so when their disguised replacements took over nautical duties under the appropriately flashing eye of Carl Myers as Captain Belaye. Christine Aitken made a sweetly semi-demure Blanche and June Highwood showed an unusual side of her talents as the garrulous Mrs Dimple.

Work by the British sculptor Phillip King, including the new sculpture he has designed for Fulham Broadway, will go on show in an exhibition at the Hayward Gallery from April 24 to June 14.

ast night's television

he Reason of Things
orkshire

lichael Ratcliffe

iss Ball had asked each member of 2A to bring an interesting object into class, and osie's dad allowed her to take his antique duelling pistol, iginally one of a pair. Miss all seized the occasion to explain the difference between *uel*, *dual* and *jewel*, and why onour was more important ian bloodshed and that firing to the ground or the air was nough. Ralph, a London vacuee whose own rather more earful contribution had been one-dollar bill from his latest American uncle", took Rosie's stol to the reference library nd returned to give 2A a little lk on flintlocks and silver. orty years on, Ralph is an ntique dealer who finds and irs the missing second pistol nd sets off for the Yorkshire ast in search of its fellow, his n childhood, Rosie and Miss all.

First of six "Plays for easure" by different playrights, Freda Kelsall's *The eason of Things* moved fortlessly between present nd past as if they were one, nd is the best new television ay I have seen since Poliaoff's *Caught on a Train*: anyone wishing to win next year's BAFTA award will have to knock this out first. The overall aim of the series, produced by Pat Sandys, is to present human relationships in a "positive" light, which sounds dangerously worthy, but so far as Miss Kelsall is concerned means simply to show them without cruelty or malice, but with sympathy, intelligence, buoyancy and wit. The only contrived thing about her play was its use of a resonant object—an old and beautiful gun—to carry ideas of beauty and purpose, permanence and change; but whereas such a symbol in the work of, say, L. P. Hartley or Enid Bagnold might disguise an exotic and over-clever view of human nature Miss Kelsall is totally fresh and direct. She is a find and, yet, she is positive.

Yorkshire's production, directed by John Bruce and designed by Jeremy Bear, presented her script with the harmoniousness and craftsmanship it deserved. The wartime teaching scenes were wonderfully accurate and funny: Alec McCowen made Ralph a gallant and unselfish accompanist of Miss Ball, and Margaret Tyzack, clever, brisk, seizing her best role for years, and thoroughly Yorkshire throughout, gave the old girl some glory.

avarian Night
BC 1

lichael Church

ne of the television critic's ss interesting duties is to fend f the avalanche of information ith which programme-makers ek to sway his judgment. Publicity material is generally both oring and irrelevant and most it rapidly follows the shortst possible route from letter ox to dusthin.

Sometimes, of course, it luminates; on rare occasions most too much. Readers of *adio Times* may well have nsed that there was someing autobiographical about *avarian Night*, in which a televsion dramatist with a 16-yeard son and an 11-year-old ughter went to a bizarre arent-teacher do at which a ariety of inhibitions were leased. Readers of the press andout will have known that is much at least is biographical fact: after turning a seris spotlight on Karl Marx, nd a jokey one on Frank arris, the prolific Andrew Gosé) Davies has now directed wry beam on himself.

A goldmine, then, for PhDs why not? they are scraping e barrel for novelists) and a rst-class piece of entertainent for the rest of us.

The domestic scene was eftly sketched in at the start. e Pike is a writer first, an dulgent father second and a uiltily negligent husband a d third. Ghastly local occaons provide excellent material ndeed—Plays for Today) and is coldly reproachful wife will not be allowed to stand in his way. *Bavarian Night* is ghastlier than either has anticipated. Pike commits a casually open infidelity with his best friend's wife in the infants' cloakroom. While most of the parents get brutishly drunk, a few sober burghers decide to form a vigilante patrol to combat the relatively harmless local teenage vandals. The evening puts a few more nails in the marital coffin, and it drives Pike happily back to his de luxe typewriter.

With only a hint of pretentiousness, this was a play about writer's guilt: raiding his life for material, the creator sucks it dry. It was a play about sex and ambition, about growing old and about the desperate and ridiculous ploys with which middle-aged people tend to try to reverse that process. It was a play about education (Davies is a teacher-trainee by trade) in which an instinctive sympathy for "child-centred" methods was tempered by cold commonsense. If there was something a shade tendentious in Davies's social stereotypes it was turned to brilliant effect by the excellent actors in Jack Gold's directorial mill.

Immediately afterwards, *Omnibus* looked at the splendours and miseries of acting itself. To hear D. Elliott, L. Rossiter, E. Bron and A. Massey and others cataloguing their favourite disasters was tremendous fun. One of the neatest anecdotes was Rossiter's, of a dire moment in a dire production. "What's gone wrong with our marriage?" inquired an actor desperately, whereupon a moth flew out of his flies.

I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking it on the Road
Apollo

Irving Wardle

Feminism, for all its conquests elsewhere, has as yet made little impact on middlebrow musical theatre where the garter-belt and the twinset still reign supreme. The Rockettes are still high-kicking away in Radio City Music Hall, not to mention the Phoenix; and, it is the same story when you move up from the chorus line to the stars whom you would expect to be in complete control of their material. From Billie Holiday to Sarah Vaughan, it is the subtext they put into the songs, not the songs themselves, that tell you who they are.

To bypass the alliance between showbiz and male chauvinism Gretchen Cryer and Nancy Ford have devised a new kind of musical show which puts over the liberationist message loud and clear while also disarming all objections to it. *I'm Getting My Act Together* consists of an acrimonious tryout session between a lead singer and her manager before her new act is unveiled to the pack of agents and DJs on whom her career depends.

Something nasty has happened to Heather since Joe last saw her in action. Her new material contains unflattering references to men leaving their underwear around the house: there are sour comments on childhood and marriage, and Miss America is advised to pick up her trophy and smash it into the television set.

There are also peculiar sketches with women aping minstrel shows and draped in do-it-yourself equipment. The whole thing is downbeat, and many people are going to be offended. She should do herself a favour and go back to her old act.

This running battle between star and manager is cunningly inserted between the numbers for Heather (Diane Langton) and her group, some of which meet with Joe's approval and some which get through to him like a red-hot tack. The feminist manoeuvres are expertly varied. "Dear Tom", for instance, begins as a gentle farewell to a former husband, but just as the manager is relaxing into moist-eyed enjoyment, the song breaks off for a court deposition in which the wife explains that living with dear Tom meant that she had to act the part of an idiot child.

Diane Langton, Ben Cross Photograph by Donald Cooper

The authors get their reliable milage from the standard collision between an artist and a front-office salesman ("how do you sell bravery?", Joe asks her), but there is more to the relationship than that.

By degrees it emerges that Joe is reacting not only as a manager but as a defeated husband whose wife is energetically blackmailing him with offstage suiside attempts. So there is a personal as well as professional collision; and although the show is solidly on Heather's side, it also gives unlimited scope to her confusions and storming rages. Far from being a feminist abstraction, she sometimes rivals Joe as a figure of

This happens only in their dialogue; never in the songs which lift the show's argument into an alternately lyrical and combative zone where intensity of feeling combines with great professional snap. The back-up duo of Nicky Croydon and Megg Nicol contribute much to the vitality of Word Baker's production: it would be immeasurably feebler as a two-character show.

Essentially, however, that is what it is; and my one complaint in this department is that Ben Cross, a parasitic outsider from his first entrance, is more intent on showing the manager up than in showing him off. If the power of moneyed sexism is to be seen collapsing, it needs more authority to start with. As for Miss Langton, it is a treat to see her at last in the lead role of which that voice and that stage presence have previously been cheated.

With a lesser performer, the whole show could have been summed up in Joe's terms as an ego-trip. With this artist there is simply too much generosity in the playing for that description to apply; and musically there is a perfect balance between unexaggerated honesty of emotion and a soaring line. Look out for the number "Old Friend"; although it is a give-away to mention this, as it is the song that also goes to the manager's heart.

The Flying Karamazov Brothers
Mayfair

Anthony Masters

No, they do not fly, but they juggle—which means everything else flies, from boots, umbrellas and plucked chickens (contributed by the audience) to assorted ironmongery. Sadly, the name is another flight of fancy, which puts paid to my hopes of seeing the Onegin-Lensky sharpshooting act or the show-stopping trio of Prozorov sisters. But I think any four lads who trust each other enough to play juggle-and-toss with razor-sharp sickles are entitled to call themselves brothers.

Shaggy as Samsons unshorn, they have a hang-loose, hippieish air that identifies them as American college graduates of fairly recent date but belies their professionalism and precision. Juggling can hardly come more exciting than this: and when Fyodor's ninepins create graceful, grandiose and quirky trajectiles, it approaches ballet. But their special delight is the death-defying act, and you may well be glad when their *pièce de résistance* with a flaming torch, an egg, a litre of spumante (have you ever dropped a bottle of something bubbly?), a guitar, a hatchet, a fish and a frying pan stops and turns into an omelette party with celebration glasses all round.

But what do they do for the rest of the evening? They are comedians. Their humour goes with the image (it might have been inferred from the title) and, besides combining smartness with whimsy, falls miserably down the chasm between American and English hilarity. Their assumption that any joke received in silence has been misunderstood is bold even by their standards; they drop very little, but they might drop that.

Few, I admit, can juggle with sickles and apples, swop them in mid-air, eat the apples and tell sophomoric jokes at the same time, but a marriage of genius and gags is a sorry sight.

Since limitless technical skills seem within their grasp, that is surely the way to flesh out an evening.

David Bomberg, 1890-1957
Anthony d'Offay

John Russell Taylor

There are writers, like Patrick Hamilton, William Gerhardie or even Dorothy Richardson, who seem to be perpetually trembling on the brink of being rediscovered, but never decisively are. Artists can fall into the same limbo: despite all the attention he has received in the last few years, it is difficult to avoid the feeling that David Bomberg has never quite managed to struggle out of it. At the current show of works by him from the collection of his widow, which is at Anthony d'Offay, 9 Dering Street, until Saturday, it is difficult quite to account for this feeling; it was even more so at the show of his later work staged by the Whitechapel Art Gallery two years ago. With so much, so evident talent, and so many people enthusiastic about his work, how can any doubt remain?

And yet it does. Perhaps the heart of the mystery lies in the shape of Bomberg's career. After a spectacular beginning as a prize student at the Slade and a very visible part of the combative and much-publicized Vorticist movement around the First World War, Bomberg seems gradually to have drifted into obscurity. He painted a lot, he exhibited regularly, he travelled, he taught; but somehow he had ceased to be central, and a lot of his painting was a very private pursuit, done out of some inner compulsion rather than an urgent need to communicate. Possibly he lost hope; certainly he lost touch with the art world, or more correctly the art world lost touch with him. And this mental isolation shows in his work. Particularly, I think, in the work of his middle years: the scrubby and unappetizing portraits (often self-portraits) of the 1930s, the rather wilfully slapdash landscapes of the same era.

Ironically, looking back to the superb progressive abstractions of the First World War, notably *The Mud Bath* and *In the Hold*, it was war again which brought his gifts into focus, particularly in the magisterial *Bomb Store* of 1942, seven studies or variants of which are included in the present show. After the war he again started going regularly to Spain, where the dry, angular landscape around Ronda seemed to chime with his formal preoccupations and inspire some of his most realized work during the 1950s.

The revaluation began almost immediately after his death, in 1958 with the Arts Council memorial show; there were major shows at the Tate in 1967, at Fischer Fine Art in 1973 and in Whitechapel in 1979. Yet still we think of him as a cause. My guess is that, because of his relative isolation during much of his life, he just does not fit into history neatly enough; and the period of his least worldly success was also a time of awkward transtion which makes the neglect comprehensible, if not entirely justified.

Exchange production

Helen Mirren and Bob Hoskins lead the cast in the production from the Royal Exchange, Manchester, of Webster's *The Duchess of Malfi*, which opens in London at the Round House tonight. Others in the cast will be Julian Curry, Mike Gwilym, Peter Postlethwaite and Sorcha Cusack. Directed by Adrian Noble, the production will run until May 9.

ang of Four
ammersmith Palais

ichard Williams

he pressure on young rock roups to show signs of conant development has been resent since the Beatles xulted in their ability to make ach new album quite different rom its predecessor, and has roved to be both a general timulus and a specific hindance. New bands are judged on the originality of their ideas, rather than the quality of their execution, and the audience soon becomes bored if those ideas are not turned over at regular intervals.

The latest casualties of this attitude are the Gang of Four, who appeared from Leeds three years ago. Already, after only two LPs, one EP and a pair of singles from the group, it is fashionable to disparage their unremitting concentration on political subjects and their hefty, funk-derived rhythm section. No matter that the current batch of modish bands is just beginning to learn about funk, or that the new guitarist to know about this week (the Lounge Lizards' Arto Lindsap) is merely a pale copy of the Gang of Four's Andy Gill, in an even paler band, or that stimulating political songs may be just what are needed at the moment. We already know about the Gang of Four, the argument runs; what else can they show us?

Monday night's concert proved that the Gang of Four are, after all, making progress, albeit more gently than their critics might prefer. The electrifying power of their live performances has been enhanced by the marked development of their bassist, David Allen, and drummer, Hugo Burnham, who now sound like an ideal modernized combination of Ringo Starr and the Stranglers' Jean-Jacques Burnel. The joint brutality of their attack drove the latter part of the set, including "What We All Want" and "At Home He's a Tourist", into rhythmic realms of which the Talking Heads still dream.

Older songs like "Not Great Men" and "Love Like Anthrax" mingled successfully with new material, the best of which gave the lie to rumours that their compositional talent had dried up. Gill's "Paralysed", intoned by the guitarist against stark bass and drums, was particularly dramatic, while "In the Ditch", "Why Theory?" and "He'd Send in the Army" gave Jon King the chance to sing against interestingly varied structures. Almost alone among the newer bands in matching their emotional intensity with technical excellence, the Gang of Four deserve exemption from rock's present set of critical rules.

Football

Ipswich powers are sapped by pursuit of a treble

By Keith Macklin

Leeds United 3 Ipswich Town 0

Elland Road has never been a happy hunting ground for Ipswich Town, and a couple of seasons in the last decade have seen an Ipswich championship challenge holed below the waterline by United. This Leeds victory, by three fine goals from a side much abused for dull effectiveness, made Leeds look like the championship chasers and Ipswich look a side for whom the pursuit of three trophies is leaving them mentally and physically sapped.

Ipswich were demoralized in the sixth and fifteenth minutes. First when a penalty was awarded against Osman who was adjudged to have obstructed Hart as he went for a cross. Hird thumped the ball into the net and Butcher was cautioned for arguing.

Even more staggering for the championship leaders was a brilliant goal by Harris, one of the best of the season, in the fifteenth minute. A measured through ball from Parlane sent Harris away on the left. The young Welshman went outside two defenders, cut inside and then swerved the ball, curling it wickedly past Cooper's groping dive, into the left hand corner. "Supergoal" read the electronic scoreboard, and for once it could not be accused of hyperbole.

Ipswich should have scored when a neat move from a free kick enabled Mills to send a low cross into the goalmouth. Lukic had come out to cover Mills but Wark fired wildly over the bar. of the Ipswich forwards was more befitting a side two goals in front than a side two goals down. and Brazil was next to shoot over the bar like a novice. He followed this with a poorly directed header after a four-man move had given him a clear view of the spaces each side of Lukic.

Ipswich were given many free kicks by Mr Richardson, the referee, but made little use of them against a tenacious defence. Butcher put a better header just over, but it was a muted performance by the leaders. The half ended with a fierce Stevenson shot troubling Cooper and the Leeds supporters standing to applaud their team off the pitch.

No doubt Bobby Robson, the Ipswich manager, had much to say at halfti-me. Ipswich got a firm grip in midfield, Mills, the Dutchmen and Wark pushed forward, and Leeds went back into the massed defence that has been much more their hallmark during the reign of Allan Clarke. The free kicks continued ti flow the way of Ipswich, so did the play, but there was more danger to be found in the occasional lone buccaneering raids of Harris than in the candyfloss cohesion of Ipswich. Osman did beat Lukic to a corner, but the ball flew wide. Wark came up and missed a cross completely, Mariner could not control the ball eight yards out and the Ipswich dugout was all irritation and despair.

In the last five minutes Leeds ended as they had begun, having given Ipswich time to exhaust themselves fluttering like moths against a lamp. Graham squeezed a shot past a post, Cooper saved marvellously from Parlane and Graham and then Leeds killed-off Ipswich as Hart headed fiercely past Cooper from Bird's corner. Mr Robson has never enjoyed coming to Elland Road, and he will hope that another defeat at a vital moment of the season is not an ill omen.

LEEDS UNITED: J. Lukic; B. Greenhoff, E. Gray, B. Flynn, P. Hart, T. Cherry, C. Harris, K. Hird, D. Parlane, B. Stevenson, A. Graham.

IPSWICH TOWN: P. Cooper; M. Mills, S. McCall (sub, K. O'Callaghan), F. Thijssen, R. Osman, T. Butcher, J. Wark, A. Muhren, P. Mariner, A. Brazil, E. Gates.

Referee: D. Richardson (Great Harwood).

City's goals prove to be Leicester's spur to glory

By Gerald Sinstadt

Manchester City 3, Leicester City 3

The Leicester City revival continues. At Maine Road last night they eventually had to concede a draw in a game they came close to turning from abject defeat into glorious triumph. After an hour Manchester City led 2—0. Then Leicester scored three times in eight minutes, only for Henry to deny them with an 87th minute equalizer.

Williams, a full back of persistent attacking instincts, began the fightback, scoring after a fluent move by Melrose and Byrne. Two minutes later, Young's header met a Lynex free kick and the ball bounced off the far post into the net.

Melrose drove home a prod by May to make it 3—2 and Leicester were in full cry. Wallington played his part with brilliant saves from Henry and Reeves but, in the dying moments, even he was helpless when Reeves pulled the ball back from the goalline and Henry struck it into the roof of the net.

It was only by comparison that the first half seemed tame. Quick thinking and smart execution by Hutchison paved the way for Manchester's opening goal. After a clearance from a corner, he deftly cut the ball out to the wing before Leicester could evacuate their penalty area. Reeves's shot entered the net by way of a deflection significant enough to leave Wallington feeling ill-used, but the lead was not undeserved.

By that time Manchester City had established their base camp around the halfway line. Progress from there came by a variety of approaches. Power contributed timeless running, Hutchison flicks and feints, and Henry honest endeavour.

This was plenty to occupy Wallington. The goalkeeper beat away a cross by Bennett to leave Power and Caton hungry. He watched McDonald head just over and Mackenzie shoot just wide before swooping two-handed to divert a shot by Power.

The second half began as though the pattern of the first was to be repeated. Leicester's opening flurry blew itself out and soon May and Welsh were in almost constant action around their own goal area. When Mackenzie forced a shot near them from 18 yards, Wallington again saved well.

Just after the hour, Manchester City scored again. Bennett and Palmer combined smoothly down the left touchline and Reeves met Palmer's centre at the near post.

A team resigned to relegation would have been beaten by then. For Leicester, it became the spur to show that recent victories over Liverpool, Manchester United, Tottenham and Arsenal were evidence of a side that could still play a worthwhile part in next season's first division.

MANCHESTER CITY: J. Corrigan; R. Ranson, R. McDonald, N. Reid, P. Power, T. Caton, D. Bennett, A. Henry, S. Mackenzie, T. Hutchison, K. Reeves.

LEICESTER CITY: M. Wallington; T. Williams, P. Friar, P. Byrne, J. May, L. McDonald, S. Lynex, J. Melrose, A. Young, K. Welsh, I. Wilson.

Referee: K. Hackett (Sheffield).

Went shuffles the pack and draws best out of Orient

By Nicholas Harling

Orient 4 Q P Rangers 0

Queen's Park Rangers suffered their worst defeat since Terry Venables became their manager at Brisbane Road last night. The scoreline may have flattered Orient, who were under pressure from almost first kick to last, but the result was one that Rangers could ill afford in their quest for the first division.

Their only encouragement was the number of shots they had on a night when, for the most part, stout resistance and a modicum of fortune seemed Orient's best allies. It seemed only a matter of time before Rangers cancelled Chiedozie's twelfth-minute goal but then, having survived for nearly and hour, Orient scored three more times in 12 minutes.

More by accident than design Orient withstood the unrelenting bombardment from Rangers after Chiedozie played a one-two with Jennings then lobbed over Burridge. Orient had started by playing three men at the back and that trio would have been in severe distress had they not frequently received assistance from other departments.

Although Day was rarely able to hold the slippery ball, with the exception of crosses which he took admirably, he diverted three shots from Flanagan and another from Sealy before half time. If Day was not throwing himself in the way, Roffey invariably was. Twice he saved on the line, once from Waddock again from the unfortunate Flanagan, who was denied twice more by Day after the resumption.

Whereas Rangers influenced midfield, the excellent Francis, finding support and unusual amount of application from Currie had so little influence that they seemed to rely on the trickery of Chiedozie delaying their breakaways long enough for his colleagues to sustain the momentum.

Rarely did the policy, deliberate or otherwise, look like bringing Orient further reward until Jennings accepted Peter Taylor's perfect pass to sidefoot the second goal in the 81st minute. Rangers then threw caution to the drizzle, replacing their full back, Gillard, with another forward, Silkman, only to find themselves two more goals adrift within six minutes. Taylor slipped between Roeder and Wicks to trickle the third beyond Burridge, who was then beaten again by Jennings from Roffey's low cross.

The margin, which equalled Orient's biggest victory of the season, vindicated the decision of Paul Went, their assistant manageager. In the absence through illness of Jimmy Bloomfield, he made several positional changes.

ORIENT: M. Day; R. Fisher, W. Roffey, T. Taylor, N. Gray, I. Moores, J. Chiedozie (sub P. Godfrey), S. Bowles, W. Jennings, H. Hughton, P. Taylor.

QUEEN PARK RANGERS: J. Burridge, D. Shanks, I. Gillard (sub B. Silkman), T. Fenwick, S. Wicks, G. Roeder, M. Flanagan, G. Francis, A. Sealy, A. Currie, G. Waddock.

Referee: A. J. Hamil (West Midlands).

Once Liverpool stifle Brooking they can put the record straight

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

For the third time in five years the Football League Cup final is to be replayed away from Wembley's celebrated but inhibiting stadium, and perhaps it will be more at home at Villa Park, a League ground for a League occasion. The first attempt, 18 days ago, was not an outstanding credit to Liverpool, West Ham United or others in the retinue.

Tonight (7.45) the tie that ended 1—1 after extra time resumes with slightly altered casts. Of principal importance is the return to Liverpool's defence of Thompson, who has had a fragmented season because of injuries, but remains a soothing influence and a cover when Hansen goes adventuring and others err. Against that bonus can be set the longest list of injuries that Liverpool have suffered this season.

Souness, Johnson and Fairclough are the more seriously injured and none can play. Souness, the power of the midfield, strained back muscles during Saturday's match at Arsenal and pulled out yesterday, leaving Case to deputise. Recently Case has made several appearances suggesting that he is still part of Liverpool's tactical plans. However, Bob Paisley, the manager cannot conceal difficulties in raising a fully fit and experienced team.

Mr Paisley has named 14 players including the 19-year-old Welsh international, Ian Rush, who has little experience of first team duty let alone cup finals. Rush will have his opportunity if Heighway fails to prove his fitness this morning.

West Ham's injuries are less extensive but no less difficult for their manager, John Lyall, who is hoping that the central defender. Martin, will pass a fitness test on a damaged ankle. The absence of Martin could be an invitation for Liverpool's spry Scot, Dalglish, to use speed on the turn to upset the West Ham defence.

There is still optimism that Martin will play but should he fail the test the back four will be rearranged with Lampard at right back, Stewart joining Bonds in the middle and Brush returning to gain some compensation for a terrible disappointment last season when he played in every round of the FA Cup except the final.

West Ham being a second division team, at least for the time being, they took the greater satisfaction from the original drawn game even if their equaliser came with the last kick of the match, a penalty.

Since Wembley, Liverpool have been successful in the European Cup, beating CSKA Sofia of Bulgaria, and they returned to their favourite pastime, beating Everton. On Saturday they lost at Arsenal, but it was clear that they were thinking more of tonight than the game at hand.

The League Cup is Liverpool's most accessible passport to Europe next season, and if their football this season has shown signs of a decline not entirely caused by injuries, their appetite for Continental competition and its substantial rewards is not diminished. Indeed, whereas West Ham can look forward to full houses next season in the first division, Liverpool know that Merseyside crowds have to become more selective as jobs disappear.

If past replays are a guide, the match tonight will be more active than the first, but unlike previous years it has to be decided without recourse to further games. Penalties will be taken if the score is level after extra time. Stewart, who scored from the spot at Wembley, naturally becomes the first to step forward for West Ham.

Nothing seen at Wembley altered the view that Liverpool's strength, their ability to control the game in midfield and, paricularly, stifle Brooking's diagonal runs, should allow them to win the only domestic trophy that has not appeared in their well-stocked cabinet.

Cross and Goddard are capable of catching Liverpool's defence square, yet how often has this observation proved unfounded? The point is whether these two will be provided with the opportunity to try. A Liverpool midfield without Souness will almost certainly be less dominating, so West Ham's chances are slightly better today than they were at Wembley. That is not to say I think they will take them.

LIVERPOOL (from): R. Clemence, P. Neal, A. Kennedy, P. Thompson, R. Kennedy, A. Hansen, K. Dalglish, S. Lee, S. Heighway, T. McDermott, J. Case, I. Rush, R. Money, C. Irwin.

WEST HAM UNITED (from): P. Parkes, F. Lampard, P. Brush, R. Stewart, W. Bonds, A. Martin, A. Devonshire, J. Neighbour, P. Goddard, D. Cross, T. Brooking, G. Pike, S. Pearson, R. Barnes.

Arsenal toil to find old spirit

By Vince Wright

Arsenal 2 Birmingham 1

It is 24 years sinre Birmingham City last won at Highbury. For a short period in the sesond half last nifht it looke das though they might end their jinx but at the finish Arsenal perspiration rather than inspriation denied them that pleasure.

A fifty-sixth minute goal by Worthington—courtesy of an atrocious backpass from Devine—pulled Birmingham back to equality but Arenal moved two points nearer a Uefa Cup place with a winning goal by their central defender O'Leary 10 minutes from time.

Young, showing remarkable nimbleness for uch a big man, skilfully controlled a right wing centre. Birmingham's goalkeeper, Wealands, could only palm his ferocious shot backwards and O'Leary was on hand to run the ball over the line.

It was a typical end of season game, played in a typical end of season atmosphere and watched by Arsenal's lowest crowd of the season. Much of the football was deplorably aimless, particularly in the first half. Arsenal's supporters must have felt like turning the clock back 10 years—when the double was achieved.

The club has won only one trophy since then and on this season's evidence there seems little hope that the situation will be improved. A big plus for Arsenal was the display of Davis, a young player who gre win confidence as the match progressed.

The competitive spirit is what Arsenal are lacking most. Only Sansom in defence and Stapleton in attack show a genuine appetite for action. Stapleton remainss one of the best forwards in the country, but he is spending too much time helping a pedestrian midfield and a defence which has become more prone to err.

Birmingham's only success has been in a two-legged League Cup final in 1963. Their performance last night was no more than moderate although it was easy to see why they have fared the best of the three promoted clubs. Gemmill still beavers away in midfield and he was well supported by Dillon and Langan, who gave Arsenal problems with some intelligent overlaps down the right flank.

Arsenal, surprisingly the only first division club to have scored in every home game this season, made sure of keeping their record with a simple yet well-worked goal after 25 minutes. A free kick by O'Leary was cleverly back-headed by Sunderland and Stapleton, reacting quicker than Gallagher, ran through the middle to lob expertly over Wealande.

ARSENAL: P. Jennings; J. Devine (sub, B. McDermott), K. Sansom, B. Talbot, D. O'Leary, W. Young, P. Davis, A. Sunderland, F. Stapleton, P. Nicholas, G. Rix.

BIRMINGHAM CITY: J. Wealands; D. Langan, M. Dennis, K. Dillon, J. Gallagher, C. Todd, A. Ainscow, A. Evans (sub, K. Bertschin), F. Worthington, A. Gemmill, K. Broadhurst.

Referee: T. D. Spencer (Wiltshire).

O'Leary : a goal to help Arsenal's European aspirations.

Draw made for world youth championship

Canberra, March 31.—The draw was made here today for the 16 final teams for the third Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA) world youth championships in Australia from October 3-18.

The youth championship has gained so much importance that it has, for the first time, come under official FIFA sponsorship, backed by the Coca-Cola company. The FIFA president, João Havelange, said at the draw that the idea of a world-wide challenge for youth was one of his favourite projects when he was elected in 1974.

The 16 countries were drawn in four groups. Each group will play a series of three round-robin matches. The winner and runner-up in each of the four groups then advance to the quarter-final round. The final will be played at the Sydney Cricket Ground on October 18. England have been drawn in group D, with Australia, Argentina and Cameroun, and their first game will be in Adelaide, against Cameroun.

Draw

GROUP A: United States, Uruguay, Poland, Qatar.
GROUP B: Romania, Brazil, Italy, South Korea.
GROUP C: West Germany, Mexico, Spain, Egypt.
GROUP D: Australia, Argentina, England, Cameroun.

Albion go into third place

West Bromwich Albion returned to third place in the first division last night by beating Everton 2—0 at the Hawthorns, but it took a lucky goal to send them on their way to victory.

Robson, their England midfield player, tried a low cross from wide on the right in the twenty-second minute and the ball spun through the hands of the Everton goalkeeper, McDonagh, and inside the far post. The second half was a catalogue of missed chances by Albion until Alistair Brown substituting for the injured Bennett beat McDonagh in the seventy-first minute with a well-flighted chip.

A sixty-fifth minute header by Charles from a cross by Giles revived Swansea City's second division promotion chances at the expense of those of Derby County. Derby failed to create a single clear-cut chance against Swansea's well-organized defence.

A rearguard action at Wrexham by Luton Town kept their promotion hopes alive. Antic hit the Wrexham crossbar in the second half, but the Welshmen should have taken both points when Vinter missed an easy chance to score the only goal of the game in the last minute.

Ronnie Moore's twenty-third goal of the season settled the third division promotion tussle between Rotherham United and Burnley. Rotherham broke down the visitors' stubborn defence after 67 minutes when Fern flicked on Mountford's long clearance into the path of Moore, who placed a perfect shot past Stevenson.

Barnsley kept their promotion hopes alive by taking a point from Sheffield United at Bramall Lane. Riley put Barnsley in front after 17 minutes, but Matthews equalized with a fine drive after 71 minutes. Matthews, who had come on as substitute 11 minutes earlier, was making his first appearance after a five and a half month absence through injury.

Glyn Hodges, aged 17, gave Wimbledon two more points in their late challenge for promotion from the fourth division. His twentieth minute winner against Wigan Athletic lifted Wimbledon into the top four for the first time this season. Doncaster Rovers' promotion campaign hit a setback when Bury beat them 2—0 with goals by Howard and Cruickshire.

Newport County, who were knocked out of the European Cup Winners' Cup in the quarter-final round last month, will not play in the competition next season.

Hereford United, bottom of the fourth division, held them to a 1—1 draw in the second leg of their Welsh Cup semi-final round tie and go through to the final on a 3—2 aggregate. Newport earned their place in Europe by winning the Welsh Cup last season.

Squash rackets

Illness forces Barrington to miss his first open in 15 years

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

Paradox and pathos were strangely mixed yesterday at the British open championship, sponsored by Audi at Bromley, where the field of 64 was reduced by half after two days. Jahangir Khan, aged 17, who is expected to contest the final with Geoff Hunt, took a firm stride in the right direction. Jonah Barrington, the man who beat Jahangir last year, scratched because an infection was inhibiting his breathing.

The paradox and pathos lay in the fact that the man who was good enough to beat Jahangir in 1980 now confronts what must, in mental terms, be the most difficult challenge of a great career. Barrington is a month short of his 40th birthday. His withdrawal ended an astonishing run of 15 consecutive appearances in which, every time, he advanced to the last eight or further. He is Britain's national champion and no British player has beaten him since 1966.

Barrington has proved all that any reasonable man needs to prove. There is no convincing reason why any family man of his age should remain enslaved to a training programme that would be too rigorous for many players half his age. The nature of his ailment must also be regarded as a warning—for the moment, wisely heeded. In the last decade he has played several matches in which respiratory problems distressed him close to the point of collapse.

No-one can ever take away from Barrington the memory of all he has achieved for himself and the game. Has he, now, the character to write the obvious last line—to punish himself less, lower his competitive sights, and learn how to enjoy the rest of life?

The qualifiers who won yesterday included two lads young enough to be Barrington's sons: Sohail Qaiser and Chris Dittmar, both 17, who are seeded to contest the final of the forthcoming junior championship. Qaiser, from Lahore, is a nephew of Gogi Alauddin and, yesterday, knew his luck was in—before going on court he won £20 from the club's one-armed bandit. Dittmar (the name comes from much diluted Polish and German blood) comes from Adelaide, is the son of a former professional footballer—Australian rules—and was runner-up for the last world junior championship.

Jamshed Gul, from Rawlpindi, and Peter Bostrom, from Stockholm, were two qualifiers who had particularly good wins; Stephen Bateman came back from two games down (and 5-7 in the fourth) to win a domestic battle with John Le Lievre. Peter Verow, a doctor briefly playing full time squash between jobs, earned a second round match with Daulat Khan, the beneficiary of Barrington's withdrawal. That brings us back to the paradox and the pathos. How about an over-35 championship next year, with Geoff Hunt and Barrington top seeds?

One of the most interesti[ng] of yesterday's winners was De[an] Williams, of Perth, Western Au[s]tralia, an exciting shot-maker w[ho] is always fun to watch. A fo[rt]night ago it seemed likely that [we] might have seen the last of W[il]liams for a long time. He had [to] be carried off court while co[m]peting at Stockton and it was s[us]pected that he might have se[ri]ously damaged the main tend[on] on the sole of his left foot.

It turns out that he merely h[urt] what is known as a "spring ligament." The way Willia[ms] crashes around the court, that [is] hardly surprising. Worry[ing] though it must be, the injury [is] unlikely to keep Williams out [of] action, though it may force [him] to slow down a little.

FIRST ROUND: J. Gul (Pakistan) beat K. Shawcross (Australia), 10—9, 6—9, 3—9, 4—9, 9—7; G. Alauddin (Pakistan) beat I. Yeates (Australia), 9—0, 9—5, 9—7; P. Bostrom (Sweden) beat M. Asram (Egypt), 10—8, 9—2, 9—6; D. K[han] (Pakistan) wo J. Barrington (Ireland); H. Jahan (Pakistan) beat A. [?] (Egypt), 9—6, 9—7, 2—9, 9—6; D. Williams (Australia) beat Z. K[han] (Pakistan), 9—3, 9—1, 9—5; C. Chaplin beat B. Bostrom (Sweden), 9—4, 9—5, 9—6; J. Khan (Pakistan) beat M. Sherren (Zimbabwe), 9—0, 9—0, 9—1.

O. Zaman (Pakistan) beat M. H[?] (Egypt), 9—1, 9—3, 9—6; S. Qa[iser] (Pakistan) beat G. Williams, 9—1, 9—1, 9—0; S. Bateman beat le Lievre, 5—9, 7—9, 9—5, 9—[?], 9—2; Atlas Khan (Pakistan) [beat] L. Leiner (Sweden), 9—2, 4—9, 9—[?], 9—5; Maqsood Ahmed (Pakistan) [beat] Ahmed Safwat (Egypt), 10—9, 9—[?], 9—4; C. Dittmar (Australia) beat [?] Hellstrom (Sweden), 9—4, 4—[?], 9—0, 9—2.

Rugby Union

England's case for having a Fidler on the tour

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

The England selectors will announce tomorrow morning their party of 26 players to tour Argentina in May and June, and their answers to some interesting problems. Those of the front row and the likely absence of the full back, Marcus Rose, have been ventilated already in these columns.

Others include the position of reserve scrum half to Steve Smith; the two wings in support of John Carleton; a third lock to accompany Bill Beaumont and Steve Bainbridge (who must have strong claims through the unavailability of Maurice Colclough); and the men to be added to the present England loose trio of Nick Jeavons, John Scott and David Cooke.

Tony Swift (Swansea), a player who can make something out of very little, should be assured of getting one of the wing places. The third place should go to Steve Holdstock (Nottingham), Richard Mogg (Gloucester) or David Trick (Bath). Holdstock had a difficult time of it for his club in their John Player Cup tie against Gosforth last Saturday when watched by two England selectors but he was given no genuine chance in attack.

Paul Dodge and Clive Woodward, the reigning England centres, pick themselves and Nick Preston (Richmond), who has been a regular reserve, looks an obvious third selection in this position. Preston can play at stand-off if needed and he has the pace and strength to fit in on the wing, too. Versatility is a useful asset on tour and in this respect Woodward has proved his ability on the wing (which some still regard as his best position) or at stand-off. For this last position the choice of Huw Davies and John Horton, no doubt, may be taken as read.

If Bainbridge is selected at lock as an investment for the future the selectors may see a case for choosing a much more experienced campaigner, John Fidler (Gloucester), to knit things together tightly and provide them with a proven ball-winning capacity at number four in the lineout.

Bob Hesford, the Bristol No 8 has a strong claim to one of the five loose forward positions, having played well when replacing Jeavons on a flank during the early stages of the Calcutta Cup match. If Hesford is selected, the fifth place must go to a flanker and ideally to someone capable of playing open or blind. Such a criterion establishes Bristol's Mike Rafter as the leading candidate. He is a great tourist and would make an admirable vice-captain.

In an earlier reveiw of England problems in the front row (no Cotton, no Wheeler, no Blakeway) I carelessly omitted to mention Gary Pearce (Northampton) as one of the contenders for a tight head prop position. The selectors will be choosing four props—an insurance which in the light of this season's difficulties seems wholly justified.

Longest suspension: Hector Barnfather, persuaded to return to first class rugby this season, has been forced to regret his comeback—after being banned for two years and seven weeks. The Langholm flanker suffered the longest suspension imposed by the Scottish Rugby Union after being sent off in a championship match against Gala. It was his fourth sending-off.

The ban, which prevents Barnfather from playing until the 1983-84 season, exceeds the 16-month suspension that Alan Hardie (Gordonians) received after a televised incident with Gordon Brown in a district match at Murrayfield in 1976.

Barnfather only returned to senior rugby this season because Langholm were short of back row players.

Bristol squelch through bad patch to win

By Alan Gibson

Bristol 14 Aberavo[n 7]

It was an evening to score v[ery] tries early, before too much m[ud] clung to the boots. Bristol [got] a good one after 10 minu[tes] through Thomas, after Abera[von] had been too ambitious in th[eir] own 22. After that, Bristol rel[ied] mostly on kicking for progre[ss]. Wright dropped a neat goal bef[ore] half-time and Cue kicked a pena[lty] soon afterwards.

It is an old tradition at [the] Memorial Ground that Bristol h[ave] a bad spell when they are aro[und] 10 points up. They fulfilled [the] belief in the third quarter. Th[ey] did not seem to be able to h[old] a pass, or make a clean kick [to] touch. Aberavon saw their chan[ce] and perked up. Their full ba[ck] Wynford Lewis, scored a try, jo[in]ing the line and taking an ins[ide] pass after a movement down [the] left. Then Michael Lewis kick[ed] a penalty.

But Bristol got over their [bad] patch, and scored a remarka[ble] try when Harding, their scr[um] half, who was nicely positioned [to] offer Wright another drop at go[al] decided instead to throw [an] enormous pass to the rig[ht]. Miraculously, it was accurate, a[nd] was caught, and Cue scored wi[th]out trouble, the Aberavon defen[ce] as staggered as the rest of [us]. Cue did not convert it, but t[he] moral balance of the match h[ad] changed, and Bristol were [not] seriously worried again.

The final score, therefore, w[as] two tries, a dropped goal, and [a] penalty goal, to a try and [a] penalty goal. Given the co[ndi]tions, it was a lively match, a[nd] scarcely ever ill-tempered, than[ks] in some measure to an admirab[le] referee.

BRISTOL: P. Cue; A. Morley (captain), J. Watson, A. Thomas, Caven, N. Wright, R. Harding; Fry, J. Tasker, A. Sheppard, Gaymond, N. Lear, P. Polledri, Hesford, M. Rafter.

ABERAVON: W. Lewis; M. Thoma[s], N. Coslett, G. Matthews, L. Kee[n], M. Lewis, J. Greenway, P. Knigh[t], W. James (captain), G. Davies, O'Callaghan, P. Ridgedale, S. Thoma[s], D. O'Callaghan, M. Edwards.

Referee: R. Quittenton (London).

Tennis

Wimbledon's umpires face exams

All Wimbledon umpires this year will, for the first time, have had to pass an examination in the grand prix rules and regulations and code of conduct.

The examination is part of a scheme to improve the quality of umpiring and is being organized by the Lawn Tennis Umpires' Association, whose members will officiate at Wimbledon.

In previous years, up to 200 umpires have chaired Wimbledon matches, but now the number has been brought down to 80 for the championship matches.

Some officials who have umpired matches in the past will now be required to act only as linesmen or umpire plate and junior events.

The LTUA have organized one-day courses at Bromsgrove on Saturday and Sunday and at Crystal Palace, on April 11-12, to be run by Eric Auger and Harry Targett, present and past LTUA tournament secretaries

Mr Auger said: "This is all part of our continuing training programme. The intention is for all Wimbledon umpires to take a revisionary course each year so that we make absolutely certain we are up to date with any changes. Only those who pass the examination will be allowed to umpire."

Rowing

Oxford take on champions Cambridge race schoolboys

By Jim Railton

Oxford took on world champions yesterday while Cambridge raced schoolboys. But each had a purpose in mind. Oxford, in what is likely to be their last major piece before the Boat Race on Saturday, raced the British lightweight eight—with six world champions on board—and threw down the gauntlet to Cambridge.

Cambridge decided on a gentler passage in the morning to test their new line-up but, with renewed confidence, just might be tempted to race the British lightweights this evening.

The British lightweight eight is the sixth fastest in the country at the moment, with their peak set for the world championships next August in Munich. They have improved a great deal since their last appointment with Oxford some weeks ago. The tempo of the competition has also much improved. The organization of the trial was civilized, with an umpire and aligneur in the form of the respective coaches.

Oxford and the lightweights raced, in the Tideway parlance, a "bridger" from Hammersmith to Putney. Oxford took their initial station advantage on Surrey to the full and with only one clash of blades—remarkable these days—were a length up in 45 seconds and three in three minutes. The[n] they appeared to sit on the[ir] opponents before pressing th[e] accelerator in the last minute o[r] so and finished 15 seconds ahead. Oxford's coxswain, Susan Brown steered what would be a perfe[ct] course in normal conditions bu[t] with so much landwater the Tide[way] route is hazardous and to[wards] the end she was just a frac[tion] out of the best course.

Cambridge's offering of the da[y] was against Emanuel School, wh[o] won the Schools head race tw[o] weeks ago and finished 22nd to take the senior B Pennant in th[e] Head of the River Race las[t] Saturday. From just below Ham[mersmith] Bridge to Putney. Cambridge gave the schoolboys one-and-a-half lengths start. Cambridge overlapped their opponents after a minute; led after two, and were clear in three. After that it was an easy ride for the Blue boat, who went out to a four lengths plus victory. Now the question is whether Cambridge will be tempted to test the British lightweight eight today over the same course. An appointment has been made and if it is kept direct comparisons between the respective Blue boats will be possible.

Outings tomorrow: Oxford 10 and 3.30; Cambridge 10.30 and 6.

Yesterday's results

First division

Arsenal (1) 2 Birmingham (0) 1
Stapleton Worthington
O'Leary 17,431
Leeds (2) 3 Ipswich (0) 0
Hird 25,462
Harris
Hart
Man City (1) 3 Leicester (0) 3
Reeves (2) Williams
Henry Young
26,141 Melrose
West Brom (1) 2 Everton (0) 0
Robson 14,833
A. Brown

Second division

Derby (0) 0 Swansea (0) 1
15,210 Charles
Orient (1) 4 QP Rangers (0) 0
Jennings 6,724
Chiedozie
P. Taylor
Wrexham (0) 0 Luton (0) 0
4,157

Third division

Carlisle (1) 1 Exeter (0) 1
Robson P. Rogers
4,385
Rotherham (0) 1 Burnley (0) 0
Moore 9,762
Sheffield U (0) 1 Barnsley (1) 1
Matthews Riley
20,369

Fourth division

Bury (1) 2 Doncaster (0) 0
Howard 3,394
Cruickshank
Wimbledon (1) 1 Wigan (0) 0
Hodges 2,638

Scottish second division

Stenhousmr (0) 1 Meadowbnk (0) 1
Jack Boyd

Anglo-Scottish Cup, final, second leg

Notts Co (0) 1 Chesterfield (0) 1
Masson Crawford
12,951
Score after 90 min 1—0. Chesterfield win 2—1 on aggregate.

WORLD CUP: Asian group two: Saudi Arabia 1, Qatar 0. Pacific group: Ocean Islands 2, Murango 2.

WELSH CUP: Semi-final round, second leg: Newport County 1, Hereford United 1 (Hereford win 3—2 on agg).

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: AP Leamington . Northwich Victoria : Bangor 1, Worcester 1.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Redworth 0, Stourbridge 0; Bridgend 2, Kidderminster Harriers 1; Corby 0, Cheltenham 0, Merthyr Tydfil 2, Banbury 0. Southern division: Andover 0, Tonbridge 0; Basingstoke 2, Dorchester 2; Dartford 1, Hastings 0; Dunstable 0, Gosport Borough 2; Folkestone 0, Salisbury 0; Hillingdon Borough 1, Aylesbury 0; Waterlooville 1, Bognor Regis 2.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Cup, semi-final round, second leg: Gainsborough 0, Marine 1 (aggregate 1—3). League: Buxton 1, King's Lynn 1; Morecambe 2, Workington 3.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division, Harlow 1, Dulwich Hamlet 3; Sutton 1, Staines 3. First division: Clapton 3, Walton and Hersham 1; Epsom and Ewell 2, Oxford City 0; Hampton 0, Tilbury 1. Second division: Worthing 4, Egham 1.

HITACHI CUP: Semi-final round, second leg: Slough 2, Bishop's Stortford 1 (aggregate 3—2); Waltham Avenue 1, Hayes 1 (aggregate 4—2).

LONDON SENIOR CUP: Third round, third replay: Cheshunt 2, Carshalton 0.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: Grays Athletic 1, Basildon 1; Harefield 2, Welling 1; Windsor and Eton 2, Fleet 1. Postponed: Alton v Redhill.

SURREY SENIOR CUP: Semi-final round, replay: Metropolitan Police 1, Woking 4.

Rugby Union

CLUB MATCHES: Bristol 14, Aberavon 7; Langholm 7, Selkirk 20; Neath 39, Penarth 12.

LEICESTERSHIRE CUP: Final: Westleigh 10, Oadby-Wyggs 7.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

LEAGUE CUP: Final: replay: Liverpool v West Ham United (Villa Park, 7.45).

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION: Aberdeen v Partick Thistle; Celtic v Hearts; Rangers v Morton.

SCOTTISH FIRST DIVISION: Dundee v Raith Rovers; Dunfermline Athletic v Clydebank; East Stirling v Stirling Albion.

SCOTTISH SECOND DIVISION: Clyde v Queen of the South; Cowdenbeath v Forfar Athletic; Queen's Park v Montrose.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Worksop v Marine.

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: FA XI v Combined Services (at Aldershot Military Stadium).

SCHOOLS INTERNATIONAL (under-15): Wales v England (at Cardiff, 2.30).

RUGBY UNION: Club matches: Abertillery v Llanelli (7.0); Cross Keys v Swansea (7.0); Ebbw Vale v Pontypridd (7.0); Maesteg v Clifton (7.0); Newbridge v Glamorgan Wdrs (6.0); Nuneaton v Coventry (7.15); Pontypool v Bridgend (7.0); Rosslyn Park v London Irish (7.15).

REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Army v Civil Service (at Aldershot, 3.0); British Universities v French Universities (at Motspur Park, 4.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE: Slalom Lager championship: Featherstone Rovers v Leigh (6.15); Warrington v Wakefield Trinity.

SQUASH RACKETS: British Open championship (at Bromley Town SC).

SNOOKER: English amateur championship (North) (at Blackpool).

New Ford car

Ford of Europe is to re-enter sports car racing and will unveil a new car, the Ford C100, to make its debut in Silverstone's six hours race on May 10.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Andermatt	40	340	Fair	Heavy	Closed	Rain	5
Slushy snow everywhere							
Anzere	20	180	Poor	Varied	Poor	Rain	3
Snowing above 2,000 metres							
Avoriaz	140	250	Fair	Varied	Slush	Cloud	6
Some lifts closed, high winds							
Flaine	57	320	Fair	Heavy	Poor	Cloud	9
Few runs open avalanche danger							
Grindelwald	0	150	—	Snow	Nil	Rain	7
Heavy wet new snow falling							
Isola 2000	25	85	Good	Powder	Good	Snow	1
Very good skiing off piste							
Kitzbühel	0	115	Poor	Heavy	Closed	Fair	15
Lifts closed by high winds							
Les Arcs	60	180	Poor	Heavy	Poor	Rain	4
Slush on lower slopes							
La Plagne	110	255	Poor	Heavy	Poor	Snow	-1
Very poor visibility							
St Anton	10	390	Fair	Heavy	Poor	Cloud	10
Slush on lower slopes							
Tignes	145	290	Good	Heavy	Good	Snow	2
Deep snow on all pistes							
Wengen	30	150	Bad	Heavy	Good	Rain	6
Lifts closed by rain							

These reports are the last of the season, although we will give regular information on where you can find good skiing until Easter.

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following details have been received from other sources:

NORWAY	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
Finse	—	200	Good	—	-5
Geilo	—	100	Good	—	-1
Gol	—	100	Good	—	-3
Lillehammer	—	145	Good	—	-2
Norefjell	—	100	Good	—	-1
Oslo	—	90	Var'd	—	-6
Voss	—	200	Good	—	-3
Rjukan	—	96	Good	—	-1

For the record

Tennis

FRANKFURT: WCT tournament: first round: S. Smith (US) beat S. Birner (Czechoslovakia), 6—7, 7—5, 6—3; B. Lutz (US) beat W. Popp (WG), 6—4, 6—1.

LINZ: Grand Prix tournament: first round: J. Fitzgerald (Australia) beat P. Slozil (Czechoslovakia), 7—6, 6—0; K. Eberhard (WG) beat M. Hocevar (Brazil), 6—2, 6—1; C. Johnstone (Australia) beat A. Jarryd (Sweden), 6—3, 6—2; B. Boileau (Belgium) beat P. Torre (France), 2—6, 6—1, 6—4; R. Simpson (New Zealand) beat I. Wimmer (Austria), 6—2, 6—1; C. Lewis (NZ) beat J. Hrebec (Czechoslovakia), 3—6, 6—4, 6—3; N. Saviano (US) beat P. Kirchhüber (WG), 6—4, 6—2; L. Sanders (Netherlands) beat B. Drewett (Australia), 7—6, 6—7, 6—1; M. Edmondson (Australia) beat K. Meiler (WG), 6—2, 7—5; R. Reininger (Austria) beat P. Hjertqvist (Sweden), 6—3, 6—4.

Show jumping

VIENNA: World Cup tournament: 1, G. Wiltfang (WG), Roman, 0 faults, 28.4sec; 2, G. Mullins (Ireland), Rockbarton, 0.29.8; 3, T. Fruehmann (Austria), Fontana, 8.31.2; 4, L. Merkel (WG), Salyara, 8.31.4; 5, P. Luther (WG), Livius, 4.37.0. Standings: 1, G. Bertrand de Balanda (France), 86pts; 2, Fruehmann, 76; 3, F. Cottier (France), 66.

Snooker

BRISTOL: World Professional Championship: qualifying round: D. Martin (Pofleries) beat J. Pulman (Bromley), 9—2 (38—77, 73—48, 78—26, 78—35, 83—46, 75—17, 76—14, 63—73, 64—52, 80—39, 81—32).

Rackets

Reiss rises to the occasion

By Roy McKelvie

Tonbridge won the schools rackets championship for the fourth time at Queen's Club yesterday. In a final that lacked some of the quality of other matches played during the week, the Tonbridge pair, Cowdrey and Reiss, beat Clifton's Morris and Robins, 10—15, 15—5, 15—2, 15—1, 7—15, 15—8. The general standard of play in the event was higher than for some years

Except for Reiss, the Tonbridge second string, the occasion appeared a trifle too big for the others. Reiss, has been the weaver who has threaded together several Tonbridge wins during the week, mostly notably against Charterhouse and Malvern, despite the spasmodic predominance of Cowdrey. Except when beaten by sheer pace and the angle of the ball coming into his body, Reiss missed very little and he certainly kept a cool head when Cowdrey began to slow down and grow nervous in the fifth and sixth games.

Cowdrey's main contribution came early on, notably in the third and fourth games which were one-sided enough to suggest Tonbridge might win in a canter. Suddenly his attitude changed, as if the prospect of winning a cup that had eluded his two elder brothers and his father, Colin was too much for him.

As Reiss was the cornerstone of Tonbridge so, in earlier matches, had been Morris of Clifton. This time, and tiredness may have had something to do with it, he was not at his best

RESULTS: Schools championship final: Tonbridge (G. Cowdrey and P. Reiss) beat Clifton (P. Morris and T. Robins) 10—15, 15—5, 15—2, 15—1, 7—15, 15—8. Professionals Cup (final): Malvern (R. Shenkman and R. Mason) beat Clifton (D. Mayes and J. Feneley) 15—13, 15—2, 15—13, 15—0, 15—6.

Cycling

SIRACUSA (Sicily): Parabolica Trophy: 1, T. Prim (Sweden), 3hr 46min 19sec; 2, V. Panizza, same time; 3, S. Contini, 22sec behind; 4, A. Bortolotto; 5, B. Wolfer; 6, A. Minetti, same time.

MAZAMET: Tour de Tarn (1.5km prologue): 1, Y. Hezard (France), 2mins 09.36secs; 2, F. Castaing (France), 2:09.38; 3, S. Roche (Ireland), 2.09.74; 4, P. Poisson (France), 2.10.18; 5, A. Bondue (France), 2.10.84; 6, J. Chassang (France), 2:10.99.

هكذا من الاصل

Boxing

McKenzie gives performance to savour

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

The 1lb 3oz that Clinton McKenzie shed in the grace time of one hour after failing to make the weight for the British light-welterweight championship yesterday afternoon had no effect on his night's performance. He retained his title by beating the challenger, Sylvester Mittee, on points 147-146½.

It also meant that the challenger contested every inch of the way, but in the end the superior armoury of the champion carried the day. McKenzie will not want to see another close scrap like this in a hurry.

After the fistful of stodge — a banned word in the McKenzie camp — on Tuesday night, when Gordon Ferris beat Billy Aird to lift the heavyweight title, these two light-welters, McKenzie from Jamaica and Croydon, and Mittee from St Lucia and Bethnal Green, gave the troops assembled in the half-empty Wembley Conference Centre something really substantial to bite on.

It was a fight between a one-handed challenger (because against a southpaw he relies on the classic answer of the right) and a two-handed champion. McKenzie fell behind in the first two rounds as Mittee hit him with that right round the ring and tried to pressure him, and it looked straight away to be a contest in favour. But it was McKenzie who did the two-handed peppering from the third up to the eighth and as the champion moved ahead, he punished Mittee severely.

McKenzie was coolly dominant as he backed the challenger up and threw his shoulders into the blows with full leverage, the left hand looking particularly lethal. It was good to see McKenzie moving into striking positions with dipping shoulders while Mittee favoured the left hand forward stance and looked wooden in contrast.

The challenger must be given credit for weathering these desperate rounds and then coming up to win the ninth, tenth and eleventh in a row, forcing the championship wide open again. It was in the tenth that McKenzie began to show his usual signs of weariness and had to time himself through the rounds from then on; as Mittee took charge in these later rounds, the champion began to look more square based, but the challenger could not connect crisply enough to take advantage.

It was anybody's contest from the twelfth round and had the champion not recovered his wind and his poise, Mittee might have got home; but, as in his last defence against Des Morrison, McKenzie came back strongly. *The two boxers hit it out and it* was a question of who could carry on landing blows up to the last second. McKenzie's poise stood him in good stead now as he put in the extra blows that were *needed to make up the half-point* that separated them.

George Feeney, of Hartlepool, in an eliminator for the British lightweight title, won a sharp encounter with Winston Spencer *(Walworth), stopping him in two* minutes of the ninth round. Spencer boxed well against the tough and elegant Northerner. He was a little subdued at first but got into his stride in the second round and from there it was a question of who was first to the jam. Most times it was Spencer.

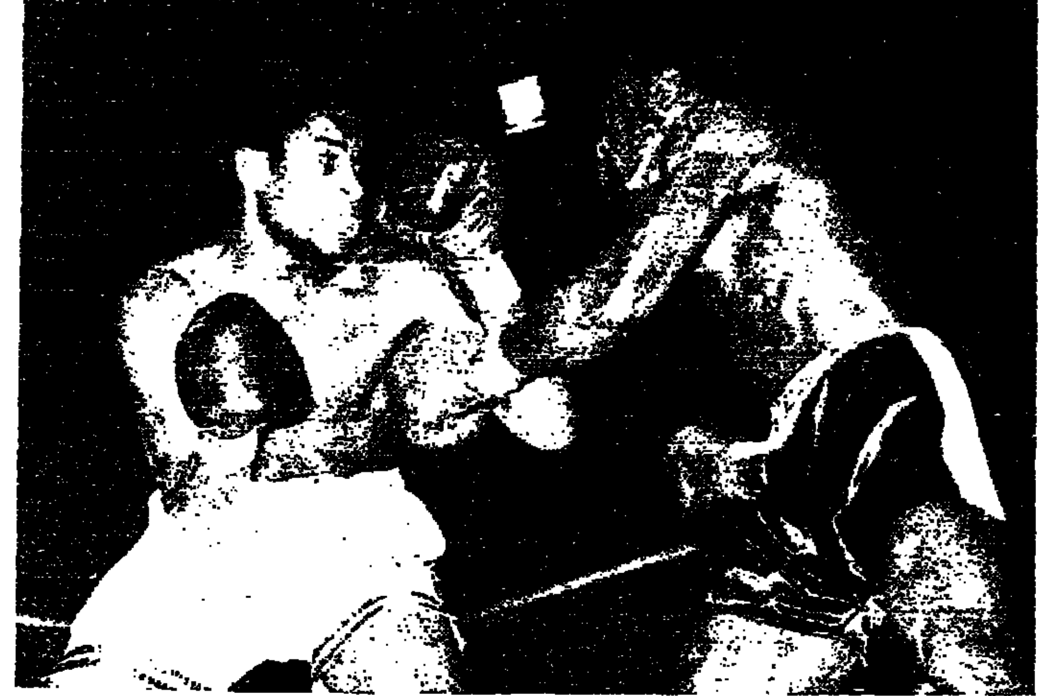
By the eighth round Spencer was nicely ahead and it seemed that he could have won the bout *if he had stayed more in the* middle. But he tended to go against the ropes where he felt the full force of Feeney's two shoulders behind the old one-two.

That was his undoing. He did *that once too often and Feeney* showed him no mercy. The Hartlepool man piled into him with both fists and Spencer was counted out, lying half on the ropes and half on the floor.

Other results

BANTAMWEIGHT: P. Huggins (Hastings) beat J. Bell (Liverpool), stopped third; G. Nickels (Paddington) beat N. McLauchlin (Derry), retired seventh.

FEATHERWEIGHT: R. Foster (Dublin) beat A. Owens (Reading) points.



Champion on the offensive: an attack from McKenzie is warded off by Mittee

Racing

A fast lady who puts bookmakers to flight

By John Karter

If you call a bookmaker generous the odds are that you will be dismissed either as one of them or as an eminently suitable case for treatment. Credit where credit is due. Their hard grasping exteriors may conceal hearts of stone, but occasionally even they offer something that stands out *like the glow from the foot-long* Havana cigars that they traditionally have clenched between their gold teeth.

What provokes this unsolicited testimonial about one of the, shall *we say, less well-loved professions,* is the 40 to 1 that is being offered by the Tote (the government machine for relieving punters of their money) against Lesley Ann for next year's Cheltenham Gold Cup. When David Elsworth's seven-year-old mare gained her brilliant success in the Sun Alliance Steeplechase at the Cheltenham festival meeting she caused more than one bookmaker to splutter on the butt of his Havana, because although she started at 25 to 1 her connexions had put their money down at double those odds.

Yesterday at Sandown Park Lesley Ann plummeted in class in *the first division of the Novices'* Steeplechase. There were no fancy odds to be had about her this time and she went about her task with the obvious enjoyment of any lady who knows she is receiving admiring glances. Colin Brown waited until the last fence before letting her show a clean pair of hooves to her pursuers.

Elsworth is considering running Lesley Ann in a three-mile hurdle at Auteuil in Paris this season, but *what he would really like to have* done if she had been qualified was to run her on the Flat in the Great Metropolitan Handicap at Epsom. This is because she possesses such exceptional speed *for a staying steeplechaser. It is* this speed that makes her such an outstanding prospect and although antepost betting is really only for clairvoyants, 40 to 1 taken now *could seem a steal come next* March.

Further encouragement for this long distance gamble came in the next race and the most valuable one on the Sandown card, the *Alanbrooke Memorial* Handicap Steeplechase. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother's Special Cargo, who had finished a bus ride behind Lesley Ann in third place at Cheltenham turned *this competitive race into a one-horse* joyride when he sprinted away from Mr Batnac and Approaching on the run in.

Mud is a must for Special Cargo, according to his trainer, Fulke Walwyn, *who produced an even* easier winner in Line Shooter in the Spring Handicap Steeplechase. What with bookmakers offering reasonable odds and people still doing sentimental things like flinging off their hats to salute a royal victory it seemed for a while yesterday that perhaps the world was not such a bad place after all.

Broderick Munro-Wilson, an amateur rider must certainly think so. He followed his double at the last meeting here with a victory on his Grand National candidate Coolishall in the Royal Artillery Ubique Challenge Cup. Coolishall's win paid a tenuous compliment to the National favourite, Spartan Missile, who beat him easily on this course recently.

Munro-Wilson, a merchant banker and SAS man, is one of those devil-may-care *Biggles* type of characters who make National Hunt racing such a fun sport. He may not be taken all that seriously in his attack on Aintree (where, incidentally he came down at the *first fence last year after break*ing a stirrup iron) but he could yet wipe the smiles from some of the faces. There is, however no truth in the rumour that Munro-Wilson will enter the Aintree weighing room via the roof and then crash in through the skylight on a rope.

Piggott's treble: Lester Piggott got off the mark with a treble on favourites Beeleigh, Belloc and Daring Dame at Leicester

Special Cargo and the Queen Mother share the fun of winning in Sandown Park's unsaddling enclosure.

Spartan Missile firm favourite for Grand National

By Michael Seely

Twenty horses have already arrived at Aintree racecourse stables for one of the biggest Irish raids ever launched on the meeting. In all 50 Irish runners are expected to take part.

Despite the wettest March that Liverpool has experienced for 140 years and no rain has fallen for the past four days the ground is *now drying: the turf at Aintree* drains extremely quickly.

The going is now estimated to be good to soft and, if the dry weather continues, conditions could be perfect for the Grand *National on Saturday. This may be* the penultimate running of the race, unless an agreement can be reached with Bill Davies, the owner of the racecourse, over its future.

There were no surprise withdrawals at the four-day stage of acceptors yesterday, when 41 horses stood their ground. Spartan Missile remains a firm favourite at around 7-1 with all the leading bookmakers.

Ladbrokes, who are running the meeting for the sixth year, have cut the odds of Cheers from 33-1 to 25-1. *This support is due to* the fact that Peter Scudamore will be riding John Edwards's nine-year-old. They also report having laid a single bet of £12,000 to £1,000 against Aldaniti but are keeping Josh Gifford's hope at the same odds for the time being.

William Hills have had a flood of money for all the Royals in the race: Royal Mail, Royal Exile and Royal Stuart have had their odds *trimmed to 16-1, 20-1 and* 25-1 respectively. Hills estimate that a victory for Spartan Missile would cost them a quarter of a million pounds. They offer 12-1 against John Thorne's hunter-*chaser after his fine race behind* Little Owl in the Cheltenham Gold Cup and have been taking bets for Spartan Missile ever since.

Curiously the National, despite its 30 huge fences and distance of four and a half miles, generally turns out to be a punters' race. In the past eight years it would have been perfectly possible to have backed seven winners. Red Rum was well fancied in all of his three victories; so, too, was L'Escargot in 1975 and Rag Trade the following year; and Lucius, in 1978, and Rubstic, in 1979, also had sound credentials.

The fact is that at least 60 per cent of the runners have no chance, barring accidents to all the good horses, but because of the large number taking part the *bookmakers are forced to offer* reasonable odds against the leading contenders.

My four against the field this time are Spartan Missile, Rubstic Aldaniti and Royal Mail. Rubstic *has already won the race and the* other three have some pretensions to class at the weights. If you backed all four horses at their current odds, you would be getting 2-1 for your money—and you would have a formidable quartet on your side.

Saturday promises to be a day to remember. The Sunrating Chase has attracted such fast horses as Anaglog's Daughter Jack of Trumps, Rathgorman, Beacon Light and Friendly Alliance. The Templegate Hurdle will not only see Pollardstown and *Daring Run renewing their Chel*tenham rivalry: Ekbalco, the runaway winner of the Imperial Cup, is another likely starter and is expected to prove a live threat to the big two. Baron Blakeney, the *Daily Express Triumph Hurdle* winner, also figures among the nine acceptors.

Today sees the quiet before the storm with only moderate fare on offer on the flat at Catterick. *Walter Wharton* has already had a two-year-old winner this season and his filly, Trust Sally, could be the one to be on in the Oran Auction Stakes.

Cricket

Storms improve England's prospects of salvation

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Antigua, March 31

England's chances *of saving the* fourth Test match against West Indies have been improved by a break in the weather. After a succession of heavy storms there was no play here today and the trough, heading *southwards* from Puerto Rico, is slow moving. England, with all their second innings wickets in hand, are 190 runs behind West Indies and the match ends tomorrow.

By lunchtime there had been something like two inches of rain in the last 24 hours. This is unusual for the time of year. England's only objection was that some of it had penetrated the tarpaulins, leaving two or three *damp* patches at one end of the line of the off stump.

In the ordinary way the pitch would have been exposed yesterday to a hot sun and sapped of some of its pace. That is the usual rest day pattern: when, as now, the covers have to be kept on, pitches tend to sweat and life to be retained. However, to survive tomorrow, even on a pitch that is slightly moist, is a preferable proposition for England to surviving two days on a dehydrated *one*.

A British Airways pilot, who landed in Antigua this morning, spoke of the strong possibility of further rain tomorrow. At times last night winds here and in other parts of the Caribbean were of gale force.

It may now be taken for granted that England, two Tests down with only the last in Jamaica to come, will lose a series in West Indies for the first time since 1947-48. In 1953-54 and again in 1973-74 they came from behind *and drew; in 1959-60 and 1967-68* they won the only Test to be finished. This time they have met their undisputed masters.

SCORES: England 271 (P. Willey 102 not out; C. E. H. Croft 6 for 74) and 7 for no wkt; West Indies 468 for 9 dec (I. V. A. Richards 114, E. H. Mattis 71, C. G. Greenidge 63, C. H. Lloyd 58, M. A. Holding 58 not out; I. T. Botham 4 for 127).

Holding's release agreed

Michael Holding, the West Indies fast bowler seems certain to play midweek cricket for *Lancashire this summer.* After long talks the county have agreed terms for Holding's release with Rishton, the Lancashire League club he is due to join later this month.

Agreement was finally reached when Rishton officals visited Old Trafford on Monday night to discuss the financial arrangements of the deal.

Holding, committed to Rishton *for weekend matches, will prob*ably make his first county championship appearance for Lancashire in their opening fixture against Northamptonshire at Northampton, starting on May 6. *Cedric Rhoades, the Lancashire chairman,* said: "We want to place on record our appreciation of Rishton's aid, and pay tribute to the way their officials have helped us out. We have still to *negotiate terms with the player,* but that should not present any difficulty."

Although the financial conditions of the agreement have not been disclosed, it is understood *that Rishton will receive a fee for* every match Holding plays for Lancashire, and that the county will take out insurance cover safeguarding both clubs if the 27-year-old West Indian is injured *and cannot play.*

Holding told the West Indies manager, Steve Camacho, yesterday that he would leave the Caribbean after the last Test in order to be in England for Rishton's first league match, on April 19.

He will now miss the challenge match which is planned to take place at the end of the Test series, with the leading West Indies pace bowlers taking on their top batsmen. Andy Roberts is also set to play in this game, but he is understood to be contracted to play for another Lancashire League club, Haslingden.

Hockey

Free-scoring Cambridge emerge as favourites

By Sydney Friskin

Oxford, shorn of much of their talent, have relinquished their hold *on the British Universities Sports* Federation Hockey Championship, which began yesterday on the playing fields of University College, Aberystwyth. Defeats by Scotland and the Universities Athletic Union put them out of the running.

Cambridge, in Group A, and Scotland and UAU, in Group B, all won two matches to make sure of their places in today's semi-final round. Wales need only one point from London today to qualify.

Cambridge, with 10 goals to their credit in two matches, are *clear favourites*. They have brought with them the 11 Blues who drew 2—2 with Oxford at Lord's on February 24 and Gregory, who came on as a substitute. After almost crippling *their own goalkeeper in a knock*-up before the match, they began the day by beating Wales 5—0.

Wales lost Matharu within a minute of the start when he was hit in the mouth. They finished the *match with 10 men*, having lost another player towards the end through injury. By that time they had used up their two substitutes and Cambridge had established a commanding lead.

*Cambridge led 2—0 at the inter*val with goals by Atkinson on the follow-up and Dodds from a short corner. They added three more in the second half. Dodds scored indirectly from a long corner, *Mansfield from* a penalty stroke after an earlier one had been saved, and Cowan from open play.

Oxford, without Precious, Westcott, Tanner and Luddington, were a goal down against Scotland after *20 minutes, Menzies following up* to score from a short corner after Haddock had saved well off Yellowlees. Hay increased Scotland's lead from a pass by Potter shortly before the interval, but Oxford made *a spirited recovery in the* second half and Stirling reduced the lead from a penalty stroke.

The UAU took command in the second half of their game against Northern Ireland, who led 1—0 at *the interval* with a goal by Shields. Lilleman, one of the best stick players in the tournament, scored two goals from penalty strokes and Wiseman added a third from open play.

The UAU had a much harder time against Oxford in the afternoon. Although they took a 2—0 lead through Watson from a short corner and Wiseman from open play, Oxford came back and took advantage of a late short corner, Gordon hitting the back of the board with such force that it almost came apart.

Wales gained a comforting 5—2 victory over Trinity College, but London, after a goalless draw with the same team, were routed by Cambridge. Dodds and Gregory scored two goals and Mansfield one from a penalty stroke. Late in the day Scotland, scoring through Lister, held onto their lead over Northern Ireland.

RESULTS: Group A: Wales 0, Cambridge 5; Trinity College, Dublin 0, London 0; Wales 5, Trinity College, Dublin 2; Cambridge 5, London 0. Group B: Oxford 1, Scotland 2; UAU 3, Northern Ireland 1; Oxford 1, UAU 2; Scotland 1, Northern Ireland 0.

Ireland ruling: Jennifer Givan and Violet McBride were ruled out of the Irish women's hockey team yesterday. The move follows their *decision to offer their services to* Great Britain for the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

The Irish Women's Hockey Union had made it clear that Ireland would try to win a place in *the Olympics and that all players* would be expected to be available for the Games if Ireland qualified. They said any person who opted for Great Britain would not be considered for Ireland *international games.*

KUALA LUMPUR: Inter-Continental Cup: Italy 1, Japan 1; Belgium 2, Canada 0; New Zealand 4, Ireland 1; Soviet Union 1, Wales 1.

GROUP A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Malaysia	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
USSR	2	1	1	0	5	1	3
Wales	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Italy	2	0	1	1	3	5	1
Japan	2	0	1	1	1	5	1
Zimbabwe	2	0	0	2	2	4	0

GROUP B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
New Zealand	2	2	0	0	7	2	4
Belgium	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
France	2	1	0	1	4	3	2
Ireland	2	1	0	1	3	5	2
Canada	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Singapore	2	0	0	2	1	6	0

BUENOS AIRES: Women's World Cup: W Germany 2, USSR 0 (W Germany qualify for semi-final); Mexico 2, Japan 1; Netherlands 4, Austria 0 (Netherlands qualify for semi-final).

Isolation may no longer be the most effective means of ending apartheid

'Give South Africa a sporting chance'

Sport should give South Africa another chance before the so-called blacklist begins to win its *campaign, as it will, and adds* a good ten years to the life of apartheid or incites the destruction of apartheid by force of arms.

Six weeks ago my conscience *would have cut off the hand that* wrote such a statement. A little more than a month in South Africa changed my original belief that nothing less than one-man-one-vote *and the end of apartheid* should open the gate to sportsmen from this or any other self-respecting country.

The Sports Council's fact-finding mission a year ago deliberately offered no conclusions or recommendations but the evidence obtained and published pointed clearly to a gradual and substantial relaxation of segregation in sport. Dick Jeeps, the council chairman, and his party met representatives of sporting organizations and government. My visit was informal—a holiday.

I had discussions with a South *African Rugby Board* selection committee in Port Elizabeth, where they had watched black trial matches and picked a multi-racial team. That meeting resulted from mutual recognition of ties we were wearing in a hotel lift. At a picnic spot, also by coincidence, I met members of the black teachers' union.

I talked in Durban to a Baptist *minister who lectures* at a university where most of the students are Indian. Not all—*some* are white.

For the rest, facts and opinions came from contacts made informally in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban and 2,000 miles of travel by car. A general election campaign, conducted with great vigour and exposure, is in progress *and statements* were heard and read in profusion, reflecting the feelings and dedications of parties and politicians.

As for apartheid, what I had known at home and spoken against to the point of opposing the British Lions' tour in 1980 was confirmed. Apartheid is abhorrent, an affront to human *dignity*. A black boy, barred by local law from a Durban beach, asked a white boy to fill his can with sea water, with which he bathed his body. The temperature at the time approached *30* degrees C.

But South Africa is changing with every week. I doubt if anyone there or here would disagree that sport, by its virtual isolation of the country over the last 10-15 years, has almost alone *compelled* the considerable reforms in policies of racial discrimination. Logic suggests that an even more persistent pursuit of isolation would bring down all the barriers apartheid has built. To those who have not been there, a blacklist might seem to be a truly belligerent and effective act.

However, a month among those who *would be affected* leaves no reservation in my mind that it would drive the reformists within the dominant National Party back into the corner from which they have been emerging since Mr P. W. Botha became *Prime* Minister. As one newspaper put it, "They will say 'To hell with them—let's get on with sport among ourselves'".

The strength of forces in South Africa openly demanding change astounded me. Many white politicians and church leaders campaign constantly for reform; the English-language press, as professional as any anywhere, *hammer* some incident of apartheid's inhumanity almost every day. After a month you feel the weight of such opinion and see or read of *changes* taking place.

In Graaf-Reinet, the white Reinet Park rugby club amalgamated with the *coloured* Heraldics and will run two fully integrated teams. The Old Mutual Insurance Company's sports *club* at Pinelands in Cape Town claimed 300 black members in full association. Five years ago the races were partitioned off at work in the company's offices.

After a decision for complete integration a few days ago, 4,000 *black workers* will now be able to join the Natal Liquor and Catering Trades' Employees' Union. The policy and resources committee of Port Elizabeth City Council decided to open libraries to *all races*. In Durban a strong call has gone out to open the beaches to everyone, as in Cape Town, and the buses as well. A month ago, Andre van Heeden and his bride became the first white *couple in* South Africa to be married in a black Dutch Reformed Church. That is part of one month's catalogue.

Such forces for change should be recognized, encouraged and *supported by contact. Sport* has brought South Africa to the top of the hill. The downslope is just ahead. A false move now—a blacklist could be that move—and the hardliners, as seen in the minor but vociferous *Herstigte* National Party, will use pride as well as policy to block progress and the downslope will become a mountain again.

Sport should now make a positive gesture, phased in time and degree. Soccer, with black administration in overall control and integration apparently complete, would be the ideal starter. The first match of the season *in* Durban attracted 34,000 spectators; a tour by Nottingham Forest, West Bromwich Albion or, Millwall, taking club names at *random*, would ridicule the likes of Pretoria City Council which still bar mixed teams from their municipal grounds.

With the exception of some black cricketers in the village of *Prield*, near Stellenbosch, all white and black people to whom I spoke believed that an influx of sportsmen from the rest of the world would quicken reform rather than stifle it.

The change cannot come entirely from outside. South Africa's sporting organizations, desperate for readmission to the international scene, must back the reformists more resolutely than the South African Rugby Board did when 15 Transvaal school principals withdrew their boys *from the* Craven Week because coloureds would be taking part.

A fortnight went by before the board "dislocated" itself from the decision and said it was "in *conflict" with the board's policy*. To have created the right impact at home and abroad, the reaction should have been immediate, the words firmer and a recommendation that the authority capable of applying a three or five-year ban should do so. It would have shown that rugby, at any rate, had abandoned apartheid.

The Sunday Times, a great newspaper published in the main cities, *pilloried the principals in* a leader: "When school principals allow themselves to be guided by mindless prejudice, even at the risk of throwing the children in their care into the trenches in defence of a dying past; then there is need for every institution in this society to spell out the political facts of life that make reform necessary."

My view on sporting participation in and with South Africa has changed to the point where I believe the Sports Council should try to influence the Government to persuade the next Common*wealth Conference to loosen the* grip of the Gleneagles Agreement rather than react to popular pressure and tighten it. That opinion is personal and is intended not to encumber but to help the Minister for Sport, Hector Monro, and Dick Jeeps.

Take the blacklist to its ultimate, and hold back any response to the integration that has already *taken place, and Armageddon for* South Africa will surely follow.

Bill Hicks

The author is chairman of the Sports Council's information committee and a former sports editor of the Daily Mail.

Edinburgh may stage National Hunt meetings

Scotland could have another National Hunt racecourse within five years—at Edinburgh. David McHarg, the clerk of the course, said yesterday: "I have been doing a feasibility study of National Hunt racing being staged at Musselburgh in January and February. With the sandy soil, I am sure it would be a success."

Mr McHarg expected that the project would cost less than £100,000 and that it could succeed if the Levy Board came forward with the money. At the moment *the East Lothian District Council* look after the complete upkeep of the course, and have made up a loss at the track for the last two years.

"With only eight racing days at the course, we would like two extra fixtures", Mr McHarg said. He added that he would like Saturday evening fixtures to be added to the present Monday meetings. "I would also like to see a new *Edinburgh Fair* meeting on a Saturday night in August, to tie in with the local festivities", he said.

This year, for the first time, Edinburgh will stage a £2,000 handicap race each day. One of the highlights of the year will be the Tote all-aged sprint on September 21.

A five-furlong race with £2,000 added prize money, will bring a bonus for the winning trainer and jockey if their horse either breaks the existing course record or runs faster than the Raceform standard time. Royal Scots night on June 1 features the £1,400 Wilson Audi-Volkswagen Maiden Stakes.

Super Bee Jay strides to successive wins

Neville Callaghan's Super Bee Jay became the first two-year-old of the season to win on successive racing days with an effortless three-lengths victory from Boy Sandford in the Hillhouse Stakes at Ayr yesterday. The son of *Mummy's Pet*, who cost 11,000 guineas, carried 5lb extra for his win in the Kidmead Stakes over Du It Now on Monday.

Bruce Raymond, who had earlier partnered Callaghan's Magneto to win the Lamlash Selling Stakes by a runaway eight lengths from Granpark, was always travelling easily on Super Bee Jay and took command over two furlongs out.

Callaghan, who provided Lester Piggott with his first success of the season on Beeleigh at Leicester, now has five winners this season. Magneto led two furlongs *out to provide Miss Doreen de* Veuve with her first success as an owner.

Edward Hide had a double with Monza Lady and Say Primula. Monza Lady booked her place in the Northern Free Handicap at Newcastle on April 20 with a smooth one and a half lengths victory from Dawn Redwood in the Smithstone Handicap.

Hide waited until two furlongs out before taking up the running. Monza Lady picks up a 6lb penalty for the Newcastle race but the Middleham trainer, Ernie Weymes, *was clearly pleased that she got* the seven furlongs.

Grand National

FOUR-DAY ACCEPTORS: Royal Mail, Carrow Boy, Spartan Missile, Aldaniti, Chumson, Zongalero, Barney Maclyvie, The Vintner, Martinstown, Rubstic, Casamayor, Kilkilwell, So, So and So, Another Prospect, Royal Stuart, Artistic Prince, Delmoss, Sebastian V, Drumroan, Kylogue Lady, Royal Exile, Cheers, Coolishall, Lord Gulliver, Might Be, Bryan Boru, Pacify, Senator Maclacury, Another Captain, Tenecoon, My Friendly Cousin, Three to One, Son and Heir, Dromore, Choral Festival, No Gypsy, Rathlek, Three of Diamonds, Kinivie, Delopea.

Catterick programme

2.15 FORCETT PARK STAKES (Selling: £588: 7f)

1 3.00- Heavenly Ruler (D), A. Smith, 4-9-11 Birch 1
3 0300- Fair Sue, C. Gray, 4-9-8 .. Connorton 5 3
4 000-0 Best Tradition, M. Naughton, 4-9-7 Sedgwick 7 2
5 0000- Frank Stewart, R. C. Ward, 4-9-7 Rogers 10
7 0000- Kinglast, W. C. Watts, 4-9-7 .... Wood 1
8 0040- Aqua Blue, P. Asquith, 4-9-4 .... Dwyer 5
11 3000- Palmabella, A. Potts, 4-9-4 .. Oldroyd 8
12 000- Be Patient, Denys Smith, 3-8-6 Campbell 7 6
15 0000- Brockley Wood (B), R. C. Ward, 3-8-3 Young 9
17 0- Island Walk, W. Haigh, 3-8-3 .... Ives 7

5-2 Heavenly Ruler, 4-1 Best Tradition, 9-2 Aqua Blue, 6-1 Palmabella, 8-1 Frank Stewart, 10-1 Be Patient, 12-1 Fair Sue, 16-1 others.

2.45 ORAN AUCTION STAKES (2-y-o *maidens*: £690: 5f)

1 Blue Sapphire, R. Hollinshead, 8-11 Perks 4
3 Jolly Burglar, G. Toft 8-11 .. Connorton 5 14
4 Scottish Boy, J. Berry, 8-11 .... Darley 10
5 0 Hot Gloss (B), R. Stubbs, 8-5 .... Fry 9
6 Pitter Pat, T. Fairhurst, 8-5 ...... Gray 1
7 Trust Sally, W. Wharton, 8-5 .... Wharton 11
8 Haverhill Lass, G. Blum, 8-2 .. Rimmer 5 5
9 Lioro Charlie, S. Nesbitt, 8-2 Nesbitt 5 1
10 Milk Fruit Beer, J. Berry, 8-2 Charnock 13
11 Royal First, C. Spares, 8-2 .. D. Johnson 7
12 0 Rubyline, R. Stubbs, 8-2 .... Webster 8
13 Cottam Express, M. W. Easterby, 7-13 Duffield 15
15 Gravel Pit, M. W. Easterby, 7-13 Storey 7 12
16 Marilena, Denys Smith, 7-13 .... Kelleher 2
17 0 Superb Singer, K. Ivory, 7-13 .... Leason 6

5-1 Blue Sapphire, 7-2 Trust Sally, 5-1 Cottam Express, 6-1 Rubyline, 8-1 Superb Singer, 10-1 Scottish Boy, 14-1 Marilena, 16-1 Royal First, 20-1 others.

3.15 FAVERDALE HANDICAP (£1,278: 6f)

1 0000- *Skin Deep (D)*, W. Musson, 8-10-0 Crossley 5 12
2 3304- Magnolia Lad, R. Hollinshead, 8-9-13 Perks 5
3 0000- Flying Tyke (D), A. Smith, 6-9-0 .. Hide 9
4 30-00 Mills Ahead (B), D. Ringer, 4-9-5 .. Baxter 8
5 /00-0 Shere Beauty, R. Stubbs, 4-9-0 .. Webster 10
7 0000- Go Lightly, N. Crump 4-8-13 ...... Gray 3
8 0000- Intrepid Boy (C), W. Bentley, 4-8-13 Bleasdale 13
10 0040- Secret Express (D, B), R. Stubbs, 5-8-8 Fry 7 7
11 0000- The Old Feller (D), K. Ivory 5-8-8 Leason 11
12 0200- Quality Road, G. Richards, 5-8-5 .. Wood 6
13 3000- Turbo (D), A. W. Jones, 6-8-2 Winham 4
14 0040- Woodrush, D. Chapman, 4-8-1 .. Proud 5 1
16 0000- Shy Talk, A. W. Jones, 5-7-13 Paul Eddery 5 2

4-1 Intrepid Boy, 5-1 Mills Ahead, 11-2 Quality Road, 6-1 Magnolia Lad, 7-1 Turbo, 8-1 Secret Express, 10-1 Shy Talk, 11-1 The Old Feller, 16-1 Skin Deep, 25-1 others.

3.45 TOYTOP STAKES (2-y-o: £895: 5f)

1 Cautious, M. W. Easterby, 8-11 .. Stilling 6
2 Mandeck Major, S. Nesbitt, 8-11 . Moore 1
3 0 Whitton, J. Mason, 8-11 .... Oldroyd 4
4 Young Officer, Denys Smith, 8-11 Kelleher 5
5 Chinook, W. Guest, 8-8 .... Gunn 3
6 Going Well, M. W. Easterby 8-8 .... Hide 2
7 Grey Gem, T. Fairhurst 8-8 ...... Gray 7
8 Record Review, W. Wharton, 8-8 Wharton 2
9 She's My Girl, K. Ivory, 8-8 .... Leason 8

5-2 Going Well, 7-2 Record Review, 4-1 Young Officer, 6-1 Chinook, 8-1 Grey Gem, 10-1 She's My Girl, 16-1 Cautious, 20-1 others.

4.15 YARM HANDICAP (£1,086: 1m 7f 180yd)

1 320-u Lex, N. Callaghan 4-10-0 .... Birch 19
2 20-0- Anointed (CD), G. Richards, 5-9-3 Rogers 15
3 0100- Ribble Rouser (CD), W. C. Watts, 8-9-1 Hide 14
4 3334- Aberfield, C. Brittain 4-9-1 E. Johnson 11
6 0010- Mike Channon, P. Makin, 5-8-9 I. Johnson 12
7 00u0- Northern King, T. Kersey 4-8-5 .. Moss 10
8 0030- Find the Sun (C), C. Gray, 4-8-4 Connorton 5 1
9 0400- Young Robin, N. Crump, 4-8-3 .... Gray 4
10 0130- Miss Lausienne (C), G. Lockerbie 5-8-2 Hodgson 3 9
11 4040- Frankness, G. Richards, 5-8-2 .... Wood 20
12 0000- Stoke City, R. Hollinshead, 4-8-2 *Paul Eddery* 3 3
14 /200- Fata Morgana (CD), D. Weeden, 6-8-1 Young 8
15 0/00- Mikadora, T. Kersey 4-8-0 ..... Leason 7
16 3434- Little Newmarket, Mrs A. Cousins, 6-7-11 Darley 18
17 0000- Gay Walk, D. Yeoman 5-7-10 Campbell 7 17
18 40-0- Victoria Spirit (C), M. Reddan, 4-7-9 Fry 7 16
19 0400- Ribonny, W. Elsey, 5-7-8 ..... Carlisle 5 3
20 103- Laburnum Lad (C), J. Calvert, 5-7-8 Lowe 6
21 40-0- Tamarind Gem, P. Johnson, 3-7-7 Fotheringham 7 2
22 00/0- Peacock Charm, J. Mason, 5-7-7 A. Mercer 5

7-2 Aberfield, 5-1 Lex, 11-2 Find the Sun, 6-1 Mike Channon, 13-2 Fata Morgana, 8-1 Frankness, 10-1 Anointed, 16-1 Little Newmarket, Miss Lausienne, 20-1 others.

4.45 WHORLTON STAKES (3-y-o fillies: £690: 1¼m 40yd)

1 4000- Ceremonious, R. Whitaker, 8-11 .. Jones 3 3
2 0000- Colaro (B), A. Bailey, 8-11 ..... Perkins 9
3 0000- Derry Don, D. Garraton 8-11 Connorton 5 4
4 000- Hardwick Sun, G. Richards, 8-11 .. Wood 6
5 0000- Import Lady, Denys Smith, 8-11 Kelleher 12
6 000-0 Jean's Gamble, G. Lockerbie, 8-11 Maitland 10
7 002- Jinja, K. Ivory 8-11 .... Leason 3
8 000- Karminski, C. Brittain, 8-11 .. E. Johnson 11
9 0300- Magic Formula, P. Rohan 8-11 .. Dwyer 2
10 00- Phyllira, P. Kelleway, 8-11 .... Lowe 7
11 000- Salora Lady, E. Weymes, 8-11 .. Duffield 6
12 00- Sea Rocket, S. Norton 8-11 .. Campbell 7 1

2-1 Jinja, 7-2 Magic Formula, 9-2 Jean's Gamble, 4-1 Karminski, 10-1 Ceremonius, 12-1 Colaro, 14-1 Hardwick Sun, 20-1 others.

Catterick Bridge selections

By Michael Seely

2.15 Heavenly Ruler. 2.45 Trust Sally. 3.15 Intrepid Boy. 3.45 Young Officer. 4.15 Fata Morgana. 4.45 Magic Formula.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.45 Royal First. 3.15 Mills Ahead. 3.45 Chinook. 4.15 Lex. 4.45 Phyllira.

Leicester results

2.15 (2.16) KEYTHORPE STAKES (Maiden 3-y-o: £948: 7f)

BEELEIGH, b g by Sallust—Mythical Lady (D. Cork) 8-11, L. Piggott (15-8 fav) 1
Lord Wimpy, P. Eddery (100-30) 2
Polly's Brother, S. Cauthen (5-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 3np; places, 15p, 15p, 16p. Dual F: 27p. CSF: 70p. N. A. Callaghan, at Newmarket. 4l, 5l. Green Dawn (25-1) 4th. 15 ran.

2.45 (2.48) BESCABY STAKES (Maiden 2-y-o: £911: 5f)

SWING FIRE, b c by Swing Easy—Quick Burn (J. Oakden) 8-11, T. Rogers (7-1) 1
High Authority, P. Tulk (20-1) 2
Kayella, W. Wharton (12-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 57p; places, 16p, 37p, 50p. Dual F: £20.50. CSF: £[illegible]. Mrs C. Reavey, at Wantage. 7l, 1l. Annsome Boy (20-1) 4th. 14 ran.

3.15 (3.16) BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-y-o: £1,070: 1m)

BELLOC, b c by Wollow—Flying *for Home* (C. St George) 9-1, L. Piggott (10-11 fav) 1
Grain Race, G. Baxter (7-4) 2
Double Sharp, J. Reid (8-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 25p; places, 10p, 10p. Dual F: 11p. CSF: 26p. H. Price, at Findon. 1l, 5l. Finni (50-1) 4th. 6 ran. NR: Six Mile Bottom.

3.45 (3.46) HOLWELL HANDICAP (£1,427: 1¼m)

SKI'S DOUBLE, br g by Double-U-Jay—Some Power (T. Moores) 7-8-2, Paul Eddery (7-2) 1
Lost for Words, G. Baxter (25-1) 2
Elsell, W. Newnes (25-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 23p; places, 15p, £1.08, £1.70. Dual F: £9.11. CSF: £[illegible]. R. Hollinshead, at Upper Longdon. 1l, 3l. Grey Mountain 5-2 fav. Sunpoon Jersey (9-2) 4th. 15 ran.

4.15 (4.16) HARBOROUGH STAKES (Maiden 3-y-o fillies: £868: 1m)

DARING DAME, b f by Derring-Do—Noble Countess (M. Kirby) 8-11, L. Piggott (3-2 fav) 1
On Song, B. Rouse (7-1) 2
Pili Donna, E. Johnson (15-2) 3

TOTE: Win, 41p; places, 20p, 27p, 21p. Dual F: 80p. CSF: £1.08. H. Price, at Findon. 1½l, 7l. English *Princess* (8-1) 4th. 11 ran.

4.45 (4.49) REMPSTONE HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,378: 5f)

FAIRGREEN, b c by Music Boy—Sunny Bloom (C. Basham) 8-9, P. Cook (4-1 fav) 1
Humble Blue, R. Fox (25-1) 2
Jade Empress, K. Leason (6-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 69p; places, 15p, £1.44, 31p. Dual F: £6.50. CSF: £10.96. H. Westbrook, at Newmarket. 1l, neck. Steel Garrison (5-1) 4th. 12 ran. PLACEPOT: £28.35.

STATE OF GOING (official): Catterick Bridge: Good to Soft. Tomorrow: Liverpool: Grand National Course, good to soft. Mildmay course, good to soft. Hurdles course, good to soft. Devon: Heavy.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: 1,000 Guineas Stakes, Newmarket: Salmona. Diamonds in The Sky, Rossert. Epsom Oaks: Salmana, Princess Elizabeth Stakes, Epsom: Rossert. Moonlight Sonata, So Swiftly, Labroie, Star Riband. Trial Stakes, Epsom: Olympic Glory, Shotgun Battalion.

Ayr

2.30 (2.32) CASTLE HILL HANDICAP (Apprentices: £1,281: 1¼m)

SYNCOPATE, br m, by Highland Melody—Manipulation (B. Robinson) 7-7-13, M. Beecroft (7-2) 1
Spanish Handful .... M. Fry (8-1) 2
Fascadale R. Fotheringay (5-2 fav) 3

TOTE: Win, 39p; places, 15p, 30p, 15p. Dual F: 77p. CSF: £3.12. 2min 28.65sec. G. Lockerbie, at Middleham. 1½l, 2½l. Takachiho (20-1) 4th. 9 ran.

3.0 (3.3) SMITHSTONE HANDICAP (3-y-o: £1,476: 7f)

MONZA LADY, b f, by Balliol—Acceleration (P. Shaw) 9-7, E. Hide (10-11 fav) 1
Dawn Redwood, M. Beecroft (13-2) 2
Estview Lad .. B. Raymond (10-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 25p; Dual F: 55p. CSF: 50p. 1:13.05. E. Weymes, at Middleham. Tudor Dream (11-4) 4th. 4 ran.

3.30 (3.31) COODHAM HANDICAP (£2,564: 1m 5f)

RAFAEL MOLINA, b g by Ace of Aces—Rainbow Rose (D. Attwood) 5-9-5, J. Lowe (10-1) 1
High Hills, B. Raymond (5-1 fav) 2
My Timmy L. Charnock (4-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 51p; places, 20p, 22p. Dual F: 64p. CSF: £5.65. 3:21.32. Denys Smith, at Bishop Auckland. 1½l, sh head. Juxtaffancy (5-1) 4th. 7 ran.

4.0 (4.2) LAMLASH STAKES (Selling: £815: 6f)

MAGNETO, b f, by John Splendid—Magnifillnycle (Miss D. De Veuve) 3-8-10, B. Raymond (6-5 fav) 1
Granapark .... N. Carlisle (15-2) 2
Montazem .... K. Darley (10-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 17p; places, 10p, 17p, 26p. Dual F: 42p. CSF: £1.33. 1:22.72. N. Callaghan, at Newmarket. 8l, 1½l. St Benedict (8-1) 4th. 8 ran. NR: Blue Empress.

4.30 (4.31) HILLHOUSE STAKES (2-y-o: £2,570: 5f)

SUPER BEE JAY, gr c, by Mummy's Pet—Gold Ribbon (D. Sullivan) 9-2, B. Raymond (8-11 fav) 1
Boy Sandford .. N. Carlisle (13-1) 2
Prajal ...... G. Gray (7-2) 3

TOTE: Win, 12p. Dual F: 87p. CSF: £1.17. 1m 00.62s. N. Callaghan, at Newmarket. 3l, 6l. Little Vee (6-1) 4th. 5 ran.

5.0 (5.1) AUCHANS STAKES (£824: 1m)

SAY PRIMULA, ch c, by Hotfoot—Renoir Picture (Kavli) 3-8-3, E. Hide (1-7 fav) 1
Abu Torkey .. E. Sidebottom (9-1) 2
Jane Roy .... B. Raymond (9-2) 3

TOTE: Win, 16p; places, 10p, £1.36. Dual F: 41p. CSF: 63p. 1:58.69. J. Watts, at Richmond. 1½l, 4l. Beniform (20-1) 4th. 7 ran. PLACEPOT: £2.60.

Sandown Park NH

2.0 (2.1) DOWNS CHASE (Selling handicap: £1,105: 2m)

GWAYNTON, b g by Silent Spring—Balaretta 7-10-1, S. Went (25-1) 1
Sackville .... G. Davies (15-2) 2
Pauldenam .... J. Akehurst (11-1) 3

TOTE: win £1.01; places, £2.15, 22p, 35p, 18p. Dual F: £23.67. CSF: £33.86. T. Hallet at Saltash. 2½l, 2l. Todd Schedule, Banador, Cheltenham 7-1 jt fav, Equity (12-1) 4th. 17 ran. NR: Leoncavallo, Tornado Prince.

2.30 (2.32) NOVICE CHASE (Div I: £1,504: 2½m)

LESLEY ANN b m by Menelek—Royal Rally 7-11-10, C. Brown (8-13 fav) 1
Dutchman .... H. Davies (20-1) 2
Bayham Sir Vardon R. Rowell (12-1) 3

TOTE: win, 19p; places, 11p, 58p, 25p. Dual F: £5.07. CSF: £[illegible]. D. Elsworth, at Chippenham. 10l, neck. Go Arrowsmith (16-1) 4th. 11 ran.

3.5 (3.7) ALANBROOKE MEMORIAL CHASE (Handicap: £3,560: 3m 118yds)

SPECIAL CARGO br g by Dalmalan—Little Tot 8-10-0 car 10-1, K. Smith (11-4 fav) 1
Mr Batnac .... A. Webber (25-1) 2
Approaching R. Champion (9-2) 3

TOTE: win, 39p; places, 18p, 62p, 20p. Dual F: £3.25. CSF: £8.66. F. Walwyn, at Lambourn. 7l, 2l. Hard Outlook (5-1) 4th. 13 ran. NR: Miss Retinue.

3.35 (3.38) ROYAL ARTILLERY GOLD CUP CHASE (Hunters: £1,554: 3m 118yds)

BORDER MARK b g by Border Chief—Query Mark 13-11-13, Capt J. Evatt (3-1) 1
Ten Up, Capt J. Hodges (11-10 fav) 2
Gosterwood Rose, Lt-Col A. Cramsie (13-2) 3

TOTE: win, 24p. Dual F: 17p. CSF: 26p. Captain J. Evatt, at Bedale. 25l, bad. 4 ran (only three finished). NR: Crystal Wedding.

4.10 (4.11) SPRING CHASE (Handicap: £2,152: 3m)

LINE SHOOTER b g by Saltro—*Fickle* 9-10-7, K. Mooney (4-1 fav) 1
Reldis .... P. Barton (9-2) 2
Bannow Breeze P. Scudamore (8-1) 3

TOTE: win, 37p; places, 16p, 19p, 24p. Dual F: 41p. CSF: £2.09. F. Walwyn, at Lambourn. 15l, ¾l. Tower Bird (25-1) 4th. 11 ran. NR: Dancing-*In-Irish*, *Birshell*.

4.40 ROYAL ARTILLERY UBIQUE CHALLENGE CUP CHASE: (Hunters: £1,232: 3m 5f)

COOLISHALL b g by Kabale—Mona's Deal 12-11-6, B. Munro-Wilson (11-4) 1
Spartan Lace G. Tarry (5-2 fav) 2
French Peacock .... B. Hind (9-1) 3

TOTE: win, 27p; places, 10p, 15p, 22p. Dual F: 35p. CSF: £1.01. B. Munro-Wilson, at Horsham. 1l, 1½l. Night School (20-1) 4th. 12 ran.

5.10 (5.11) NOVICE CHASE (*Div II*: £1,581: 2½m)

SAINT TAFFY b g by Welsh Saint—Niris 5-10-10, Mr P. Webber (11-4) 1
Bujoji .... Mrs N. Ledger (25-1) 2
Glissando .. J. Akehurst (10-1) 3

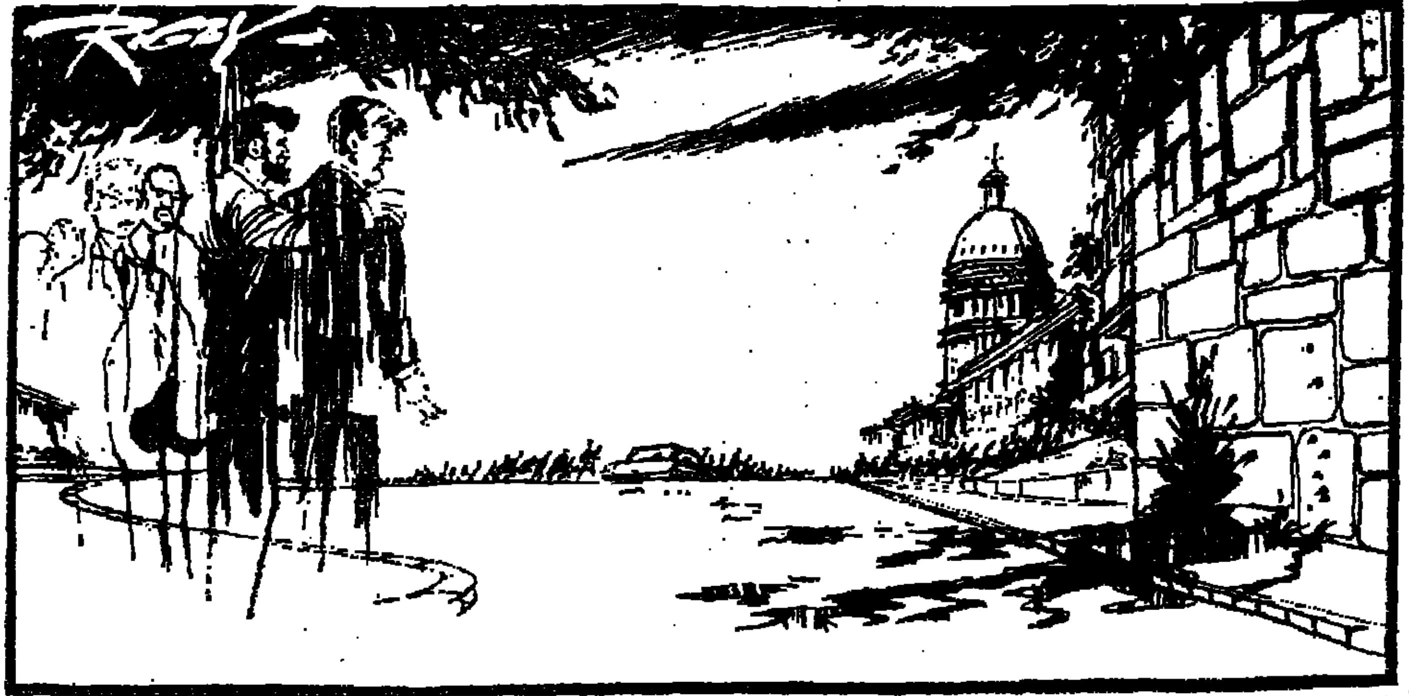
TOTE: win, 33p; places, 10p, 67p, 25p. Dual F: £2.30. CSF: £7.01. J. Webber, at Banbury. 5l, 2½l. Tilthammer Mill (13-8 fav) 4th. 9 ran. NR: Balmers Combe, Black Cloud.

TOTE DOUBLE: Lesley Ann, Special Cargo £1.20. TOTE TREBLE: Special Cargo, Border Mark, Line Shooter £16.15. PLACEPOT: £42.20.

The New York Times

‘How many times have we all gathered together, tragically . . . around the altar of events? The mind, unbidden, wonders what people elsewhere must think of us, and it calls a grim roll’

—from The New York Times yesterday



From the New York Post

There was a time when I thought one of us might have taught them something . . .

Americans, united by what they have seen

First comes cold shock. deep in the pit of the mind. Not again. Not again Not another one of those days of grim unity, with everyone remembering where they were when they heard the news. How many times have we all gathered together, tragically united around the altar of events?

The mind, unbidden, wonders what people elsewhere must think of us, and it calls a grim roll. The dull drums and bright November sun of 1963 . . . the poignant figures bent over the silent form on that balcony in Memphis . . . the glare of the hotel kitchen floor in Los Angeles . . . the blinding pain in the parking lot in Laurel, Maryland. We are united by what we have seen together, by what we have felt together.

Then, as the day dragged on a more fervent kind of unity; of sick sorow, shared pain and hopeful prayers for the President and for the men who fell beside him.

Then comes a feeling of raging helplessness. The bruised mind struggles to learn. Is there no way to prevent such horrors, no way to protect the victims, their families. the nation? A gun law, one thinks. Yet even as the thought forms, one realizes that while a law might create an obstacle to other crimes, it might only be a temporary obstacle to anyone with such demented business in mind. And as one looks again at the instant replays, one sees that of a President is ever to walk among us, he could hardly be guarded more closely.

Then comes a low, Rumbling fear, not for what will happen now, in Washington; Americans' constitutional faith and tradition are so secure that we automatically expect patriotic obedience from those to whom authority has fallen.

The fear is of what will happen later, around the country. Some, angered by and impatient with uncertainty, will turn preconception into fact. No matter what they say, the accused assasin must be an instrument of the radical right —or left. And the violence of the bullet will be magnified by the violence of glib generalization.

Such muttering need not be paranoid. Decent people will say to each other that there is a poison infecting society and it must be rooted out. Perhaps there is comfort in that thought— as though our era is aberrational and as though there have ever been golden ages when these who governed societies have been immune from acts of rage and insanity.

But there is a truer source of comfort this grim morning. This generation of Americans—this generation of spectators—has joined together again and again in sorrow. But we have also gathered in another kind of unity; the unity of exaltation over great deeds like the moon landing; the unity of joy, as on that split-screen day just 10 weeks ago Tuesday. As the hostages were released on one side of the world, Ronald Reagan welcomed the country to his Washington. “Standing here,” he said, “one faces a magnificent vista, opening up on this city's special beauty and history”.

May he, and we, soon repair that history and reclaim that beauty.

. . . and from the *Washington Post:* the terrible truth

“I knew ‘they’ would try”—it was one of the first broadcast responses of a bystander when the news of the attempt on Mr Reagan's life became known. Our mind (we are all so abysmally accustomed to, even practised in these things) raced back to the same kind of certainties that were expressed when John Kennedy was killed in Dallas and George Wallace shot in Maryland: they—we all thought we knew who they must be in the political context of the moment.

This, it seems to us, is one of the first things to be avoided this time. We don't know at this writing much about the suspect who is being held for these crimes. But everything we do know at the moment points to the same vicious, violent derangement that has brought the country such an excess of grief of this kind in the past two decades.

If this is the case, it will also reaffirm the terrible truth that there are limits on the kind of protection—insulation, really—that can be afforded a President. unless it is intended to cripple completely his ability to lead. Certainly the Secret Service precautions and the security generally of the President will need to be reexamined in relation to this terrible event. And it is surely possible that some fault lay in the character of those protections, but things will need to be tightened up. But it is also true and very important to remember that there is a point beyond which these protections cannot go.

Ronald Reagan has in fact rather altered the conception of the President's role since he took office. His idea of leadership—and there is something to he said for this particular form—clearly has a lot to do with persuasion, ceremony, a kind of embassy to his constituents and to the other branches and levels of government. He is not the man who wants to make every technical judgment or decision. He is the man who wants to bring the country with him on a broad front of policy changes, and he intends to do this by means of a great deal of mingling with the people who must help him make the changes and with those whose opinion and consent must somehow validate them.

You do not have to buy the content of Mr Reagan's programme to accept this concept of presidential leadership and to accept the obvious corollary that such a President will never be completely outside of the danger of a criminal's bullet.

But none of this makes the ordeal any less outrageous or heartbreaking. How many times must public figures, their families, the rest of us endure this? How many innocent victims like Jim Brady must there be? How many brave policemen and Secret Service agents like officer Delahanty and agent McCarthy must be shot in these ugly proceedings? Has everything been done that must be done to limit the opportunities as much as possible?

We will not believe that it has been until those damnable firearms have been put out of the reach of every criminal and potential criminal who wants one—to whom they are accessible now. But we do not move from this to some general complaint about the society itself or to those old and spurious complaints about how we are a violent or aggressive people collectively. The caption on this dreadful picture is not that Americans as a nation or a people are violent or weak, but that some among us are—and are armed.

Getting to know British guides in the Alps

Guiding people up mountains has largely been the prerogative of the Swiss, French and Italians, for the simple reason that of the European nations they have the best mountains. The Alpine guide is a person of high social status and many guide on to a venerable age. But are those agile veterans with faces hewn out of teak and hands the size of saucepan lids always the ideal partner to climb with?

Too often business transcends the sporting pleasure, and if there is one essential to an enjoyable mountaineering day it is an agreeable companion. True, they will always bring you down alive but years of towing climbs from berg to berg blunts their conversational edge and encourages a rope technique that has the power and subtlety of a colliery winding engine. Anyone who has seen a tight rein of grandmothers being stampeded down Mont Blanc or Whymper's Ridge on the Matterhorn must wonder whether there is some justice in the occasional charge that Continental guides are apt to fire their clients up the mountain as if they were fee-paying cannonballs.

Obviously there are exceptions: many guides are both sensitive climbers and entertaining partners, but the popularity of the Alps and the guiding system encourages a degree of commercialism unknown in British mountaineering.

It is illegal for an unqualified climber to offer himself as a guide on the Continent and anyone who does so is liable to a heavy fine. But British climbers who want a bit of homely fellowship and full understanding from their guide can now rest assured. Britain, a country noted more for the quality of its mountaineers than the height of its mountains, has negotiated equal professional status with their Alpine counterparts for British gides.

Mr Colin Firth, secretary of the Association of British Mountain Guides (ABMG), said: “A Swiss or French guide has a certain image to the British mountaineer and actually it is not bad. Employing a French or Swiss guide is like buying merchandise of a known quality, whereas British guides are not known in the mountaineering world. We want to show that our association exists, that our members are of equal standard to the continentals and are available for work in Britain, the Alps or any other mountain range in the world.”

The final acceptance of British guides came when the Union Internationale des Associations de Guides de Montagne agreed to issue their international carnet to qualified British mountaineers. This exclusive document showed that the Continental parent or[…] zation accepted that the Br[…] training system required a [...] dard equal to that in the [...]

Carnet No 1 went to Mr [...] Brailsford, a former blacks[…] from North Wales who is [...] to insist that his clients ac[…] pany him to the Alps [...] bicycle. “They are cert[…] fit when they arrive”, he [...] cheerfully. “It has take[…] long time to win recognitio[…] British guides in the Alps [...] there is now full accep[…] and excellent relations. I [...] took two continental guide[…] a route on Mont Blanc [...] clients.”

There are now 55 membe[…] the ABMG and nine aspir[…] To be accepted a climber [...] have a formidable recor[…] British and Alpine climbs [...] rock, snow and ice. He [...] also be a competent ski m[…] taineer. It takes at least [...] years for an aspirant to [...] through the stringent serie[…] tests and assessments w[…] lead to the international ca[…] Safety is obviously a main [...] ment in this potentially le[…] sport but personality is also [...] portant. A climber may be [...] to scale rock like an ape, [...] if the likeness extends to [...] social qualities he is unli[…] to make a good all-round g[…]

Qualification allows a Br[…] guide to charge a minimu[…] £20 a day for his serv[…] which by Continental stand[…] is a striking bargain. But [...] British Mountain Guide Ser[…] is so little known and Br[…] climbers are so unused to hi[…] a guide that most member[…] the ABMG have other jobs [...] use guiding as a second st[…]

One exception is B[…] Arkless, the only woman in [...] otherwise exclusively m[…] world of European moun[…] guides. She has worked a[…] guide in Britain and abroad [...] 15 years and won her i[…] national carnet two years [...] Her home is in North W[…] and her distinguished climb[…] career is equalled by her rec[…] as a mother. She and her [...] band, Geoff, who is als[…] mountaineer, have eight ch[…] ren, among them a son [...] climbed Mont Blanc when [...] was 13.

British mountain guides [...] used on a number of holi[…] courses based in the Alps [...] marketed in Britain. One c[…] pany, Alpine Guides, insists [...] employing only ABMG m[…] bers. A spokesman sa[…] “Courses cost about £170 [...] last two weeks compared w[…] £100 a day plus expenses [...] employ a local guide to t[…] you up Mont Blanc. Yet [...] British guide will be as w[…] qualified as the Frenchman a[…] the client can understa[…] exactly what he's on about.”

Ronald Fa[…]

On the north face of the Eiger, the sort of Alpine challenge that British guides are now qualified to tackle.

Bernard Levin

Worth his weight in Golden Delicious

For the purpose of this column, I am assuming that Dr David Owen weighs approximately 11st 6lb: if it is more, I would be obliged if he would let me know. His weight is relevant to my theme today because some time ago, in discussing possible courses of action for those leading members of the Labour Party who had at last been compelled to face that it could not be saved for a place within democratic politics, I named some of those who would set up camp elsewhere, and I wagered Dr Owen's weight in Golden Delicious apples that he would not be one of them.

Events have moved fast since then, and Dr Owen has moved even faster. I was mistaken; more important, I was unjust, and owe him not only his apples but an apology, which latter I tender now, as publicly as I did him wrong. I shall not repeat the insult in subtler form by actually offering him a load of that horrible substitute for edible fruit; instead, I am sending to the funds of the Social Democratic Party a donation equal to the price of his weight in the things, whence the guess with which I began. (I think it only proper, in the circumstances, to calculate my payment on the retail, not the wholesale, price, despite the fact that I have no doubt that I could get a substantial discount for quantity: they are selling round the corner in two qualities at 16p a lb and 35p a lb respectively. *Noblesse oblige*: my cheque for £56 is in the post. A supplementary payment will be made, as I say, if I have underestimated Dr Owen's bulk as well as his resolution, but I shall not ask for a refund if he weighs less than my notional figure.)

While I am on the subject, I may as well offer a thought or two on the Social Democrats and their chances. It is too easy to say that the chances must be good because Mr Roy Hattersley has expressed himself hostile to the new party (he has said that all they stand for “is a set of middle-class platitudes” and that in avoiding detailed policy commitments they have made “a typically dishonest attempt to be all things to all men”, a pair of comments which provide not just a *description* of his own political career, but a very *definition* of it); all that proves (apart from the fact that Mr Hattersley does not think the SDP is going to succeed) is that there is a finite amount of political ground to be fought for, and we knew that already. Both the Labour Party and the Tories are naturally apprehensive about the apparently huge tide of public approval that has greeted the formation of the SDP, at any rate in the form of the opinion-poll findings: both will sensibly discount them, as will the SDP, for these are very early days, but certainly the present expression of potential electoral support must make uncomfortable news for Mrs Thatcher and Mr Foot alike.

But it is the latter whose position is more affected by the formation of the new party and its flying start; the Prime Minister is lashed to the mast (though she made the mistake of following precedent and stuffing her crew's ears with wax, whereas it was their mouths that needed sealing) and must now sail on until landfall, shipwreck or mutiny. For Labour, however, there are various choices and various possibilities, almost all of them, I am happy to say, potentially disastrous, and many of them certainly so.

It is a measure of the sheer uselessness of Mr Foot that the only objects of his present policy in regard to his own party are to find a way of gerrymandering the vote at the Labour conference in the autumn so that the percentages in the formula for the election of a party leader can be juggled to the Left's disadvantage, to find a form of words that will fudge the question of control over the contents of the party's next election manifesto, and to find a means of stopping more members of the PLP from deserting to the Social Democrats, without having to take so resolute a stand against the totalitarian drift of his party that it will help to prove the Social Democrats' case.

It is already clear what his strategy will be. The leadership-election formula is at present: 40 per cent for the unions, 30 per cent for the constituencies, 30 per cent for the PLP. With a rigged vote here and a rigged vote there (here a rig, there a rig, everywhere a rig-rig), he will, let us say, emerge with a formula that gives the PLP 50 per cent and the other two claimants 25 per cent each. He will then announce that all is well, that this is the ideal solution, and that the Labour Party now has a more democratic method of electing its leader than any other party in the world. (Naturally, if he fails, and the formula stays as it is, he will assert that *that* is the ideal solution, etc, and if by some mischance the conference should decide that the party leader should in future be chosen by an electoral college consisting of Mr Mick McGahey, Mr Alex Kitson and the late Lord Bradwell, he will express himself as no less delighted that all is for the best in the best of all possible worlds.)

The same, *mutatis mutandis*, will be true of everything else at present in crucial contention. If the manifesto falls entirely into the hands of Mr Benn, Mr Foot will declare himself content if he is allowed to choose the typeface in which it is to be published: if the conference votes to commit a future Labour government to leave NATO and declare war on the United States, he will cheerfully endorse the decision provided that a minimum of three weeks is left between the leaving and the declaration; if he is challenged for the leadership by Mrs Renee (“I love and very much admire the Soviet Union”) Short, and beaten, he will at once assure the party that he is willing to serve under her.

And so on. But the important question is not what Mr Foot will do; it is what Mr Healey, Mr Mason, Mr Varley, Mr Rees will do. (Well, no, not Mr Rees, actually.) The fact is, political logic is on the side of the Social Democrats. Their leaders have been mercilessly attacked for years, most often by me, for accepting decision after decision that no one with the cause of parliamentary democracy at heart had any business agreeing to; the dilemma for the men in my list above, *all of whom fully share the Social Democrats' beliefs, objects and hopes* (those writing to me to deny the claim should put “Denial” in the top left-hand corner of the envelope, so that my secretary can throw them away unopened), is now much more acute, and will become more acute still whether Mr Foot's attempts at fudging succeed or fail.

The SDP, of course, cannot, or at any rate should not, rely solely on the ruin that is rapidly encompassing the Labour Party, even though they may well receive a valuable accretion of strength from further defections as the ruin becomes more complete. They will have to fight an election on a positive platform as well as a negative, and I must say that I am so far much impressed by the care their leaders (particularly, as it happens, Dr Owen) are taking to make clear that they are not simply maintaining that there is space between the Labour and Conservative parties and that they hope to occupy it. Of course their manifesto amounted to little more than praise of virtue and denunciation of sin, but their language is not just that of Butskellism or the flabbier bits of the Liberal Party, which is why the Tories, too, would be well advised to be nervous of the new group.

Would I vote for them? I don't know, which itself surprises me, and certainly reinforces my belief that they are not just promising us a way out of our difficulties that will involve no pain, for if they *were* promising that I would not need to give the question two minutes' thought. If, in the standard opinion-poll question, there were a General Election tomorrow, I would still vote for Mrs Thatcher. But there isn't an Election tomorrow, so for the moment I can duck the question. Duck the question? Goodness. I am beginning to sound like Mr Foot, and had better stop there for today.

(*The report I quoted in my column of March 26, about the atrocities visited upon Armenians over the years, is by David Marshall Lang and Christopher J. Walker. It is published by the Minority Rights Group, 36 Craven Street, London, W.C.2, under the title* The Armenians.)

LONDON DIARY

An unseemly occurrence at Westminster

Assassinations of the kind attempted in Washingtnn on Monday are mercifully rare in British political life; we much prefer character assassination, perpetrated by ex-Cabinet ministers in their published diaries. Only one British prime minister has died in office at a murderer's hands.

Spencer Perceval, about whom even less would be known had he died in his bed, met his untimely fate within the Palace of Westminster on May 11, 1812. Then, as yesterday, *The Times* gave the event maximum coverage, although the single-column headline, “Parliamentary Intelligence”, did not immediately convey the gravity of the occurrence.

“About a quarter past five”, we reported, “Mr Perceval was entering the lobby of the House of Commons, where a number of persons were standing, when a man, who had a short time previously placed himself in the recess of the doorway within the lobby, drew out a small pistol and shot Mr Perceval in the lower part of the left breast.

“All that escaped Mr Perceval's lips previously to falling in the lobby was ‘murder’ or ‘murdered’. He said no more afterwards.”

The man, John Bellingham, was immediately overpowered by bystanders and asked if he had done the deed.

“He replied: ‘I am the unhappy man’, but appeared quite undisturbed. It is said that he added something about the want of redress from Ministers.” They took him away to a waiting coach in Lower Palace Yard, “but the crowd, which was at first composed of decent people, had been gradually swelled by a concourse of pick-pockets and the lower orders”, some of whom cheered, and tried to let him out of the coach.

At his one-day trial at the Old Bailey, at which he pleaded not guilty and his counsel tried to plead insanity, Bellingham appeared in a natty brown coat and yellow waistcoat. “He preserved,” reported *The Times*, “during the most part of the proceedings, an air perfectly calm, and the appearance of one under no sort of agitation, but who had deliberately and fully made up his mind to the atrocious act he has committed, and the awful consequences that would ensue to himself.”

There was, as there is in all the best present-day stories, a Russian connexion. It transpired at the trial that Bellingham, while on a business trip to St Petersburg, had been arrested for debt, and had felt aggrieved that the British Government had not done more to extricate him from his predicament.

Throughout the trial he remained unrepentant; his plea of not guilty, which he defended in a speech for over an hour, was based, he said, on the fact that he bore no personal malice to the late Mr Percival. But this was before the days of remand pending psychiatric reports, and neither the verdict nor the sentence was in doubt.

He was hanged at Newgate on a wet Monday morning, and his body delivered to the surgeons for dissection. Because of the weather, there was a thin turnout of spectators.

It still seems, 169 years later, that no amount of security, planning, intelligence and arms can protect a major public figure from a small, sad, lonely, unbalanced man with a grudge.

Does Beachcomber live? The funniest of all columnists could hardly have improved on some of the names currently in the news: the Brazilian official in Burbados trying to repossess Ronald Biggs is Mr Ronco Zero, and one of the Polish Government's toughest anti-Solidarity hardliners is Mr Grabski.

Sitting orders

A highly sensitive defence issue is being aired in the letters column of the latest edition of *Soldier*, the army's official monthly magazine.

A correspondent signing himself only “Crusader” writes: “I suspect that I speak for every man from general to private in proposing that the British Army needs a change in the type of issued toilet paper. Soft camouflage green paper will save the taxpayer money and the soldier discomfort.”

Why the army should want camouflaged toilet paper is beyond the ability of a mere civilian mind to understand; I can only guess that an ill-timed flash of white might be taken as a signal of surrender.

However there are solid economic reasons for a change which should gladden the hearts of Mrs Thatcher and John Nott, the Defence Secretary; the writer says that as soft paper is more absorbent, the army would use less of it than the presently-employed spartan type.

“Crusader” continues: “I challenge the relevant authority to show the same versatility and rapid response that the British soldier of the 80s is called upon to show and change to the new paper by the end of the year. Existing stocks can be kept for HM prisons and Civil Service departments requiring discomfort.”

So this is what the military traditionalists mean by the modern army going soft. I'll wager there's no such mollycoddling among the forces of the Warsaw Pact, where I imagine torn-up copies of the army newspaper *Red Star* serve the same purpose.

“What worries me is the thought that they might bring us all to our knees by going back to work.”

Bishop's move

London was not the only diocese in the thoughts of the Bishop of Truro, Dr Graham Leonard, in recent weeks. He had also been approached to see if he would be willing to stand for election as Archbishop of Cape Town.

What finally decided him against the idea—apart from prospects nearer home—was the possibility that the South African Government would give him just six months as Archbishop before withdrawing his permission to live there. It is a way they have, apparently, of removing awkward clerics of foreign origin opposed to apartheid—as nearly all are.

Quarta day

The milkman's life has always struck me as one of singular advantage. Up with the lark, plenty of exercise, and those legendary fringe benefits which slow up the round.

But not everyone feels the same. Dairies have found it extremely difficult to recruit enough roundsmen in recent years, and as a result are phasing out Sunday deliveries. The latest to do so is the giant Express Dairies, which has stopped Sunday deliveries in most parts of the country and intends to end them in London by the beginning of May.

United Dairies, the biggest deliverer to the doorstep, is gradually phasing out Sunday milk in the capital, although the service continues elsewhere in the land.

There have been many complaints to Express, but Stephen Lorton, the company secretary, pointed out that most people now own a refrigerator, a device in which Saturday's milk will keep quite happily until Monday.

Express stopped delivering to parts of Wembley, north London, on any day of the week when they discovered the local populace was raiding the floats while the milkmen were on the fifteenth floor of tenement blocks vainly trying to collect the cash.

Some 40 paintings, mostly landscapes, by Sir Winston Churchill which have languished in the basement at Chartwell for years are to be exhibited for the first time by the National Trust in Sir Winston's studio, in time for Easter. “Some are good, some are average”, said the Trust's regional director, W. A. Kingston, “and quite honestly, some are shocking.”

Alan Hamilton

TIMES PAST THE TIMES
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THE GUNMAN'S SHADOW

The United States was born out of the violence of conquest, rebellion and civil war. Its myths are those of the frontier where the fastest gun was king and every man had his fate in his own hands. For reasons which are hunted with increasing desperation it has not become much gentler with age. Other developed countries have histories rich in violence and assassination. The United States has risen to become a major industrial and military power claiming universality for its values while seeming unable to shake off the darker elements in its tradition. In Britain and West Germany there are 1.3 murders a year for every 100,000 people. In the United States there are 9.7. There are also about fifty-five million firearms in the hands of ordinary citizens.

Does this background of violence and uncontrolled weaponry have any direct bearing on the recurrent assassination and attempted assassination of presidents? It must have some. Weapons are easy to acquire. Murder is commonplace in the newspapers, a pervasive threat in the minds of citizens, and almost everyone's familiar entertainment on television, where the daily lesson is that a great many problems can be solved with a gun or a fist. The man who takes the law into his own hands is as often a hero as a criminal.

But there are other elements in the puzzle which are no less disturbing. Presidential assassins and would-be assassins going right back to Richard Lawrence, who fired on President Jackson in 1835, have been found to conform to a fairly predictable type. They tend to be loners from families which are either broken or unsupportive. They have few, if any, close friends of either sex and no steady job. They often see themselves as failures and outcasts. Most identify themselves with a cause or an ideology without involving themselves closely in it. None has been shown to be part of a significant political conspiracy. The two Puerto Rican nationalists who tried to kill President Truman in 1950 might just edge into this category. John Booth, who killed President Lincoln in 1865, had support from a few Southern conspirators but not from Southern leaders.

Thus for the most part, whatever rationalizations have been offered, presidential assassins have not been the representatives of political groups or grievances but lonely sick people trying to relieve private tensions of their own. Psychiatrists have tried to explain them by suggesting that because they cannot define their identities by contact with friends and family they use the state, or sometimes an ideology, as a substitute. Aggression which others express in the give and take of social and family life is concentrated on the head of state and may then be reinforced by the desire to leap with one dramatic gesture from the oppressive anonymity of failure to fame.

This has two worrying implications. First, it makes it very difficult to protect the President. Political conspiracies can often be uncovered, but there are too many lonely sick people from broken families around for preventive action to be taken. The only protection is immediate physical protection, and the more there is of this the more remote the President becomes, which is not good for the elected leader of a democracy.

Secondly, it is more deeply disturbing for American society and indeed for America's allies to feel that a figure as powerful as the President is vulnerable to such unpredictable forces. A political conspiracy at least makes sense, and can be countered, however rational people may abhor it. This is probably why there is such a strong drive to look for conspiracies behind the murder of President Kennedy, for instance. An apparently random act by an unstable person exposes one of the most powerful offices on earth to irrational forces.

Fortunately, as events on Monday showed, the political and constitutional machinery of the United States is sufficiently well organized to ride such a crisis and provide the continuity of government which the country and the alliance need. This is a powerful reassurance to set against the anxiety which a threat to the President's life is bound to provoke. But there should be a stronger feeling now that even if there is no quick or easy way of making the lives of American presidents much safer there must be a more urgent look at the background of crime and violence which probably gives additional support to would-be assassins.

Gun control, which President Reagan has opposed, is only part of the answer, and not easy to bring in so long as citizens feel they need to carry guns for their own protection. The roots of the problem lie deeper in American society, as well as in some of the manifest inadequacies of the American legal system. They are unlikely to be reached by the simpler ideas on law and order associated with Mr Reagan himself.

KEEPING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

Year in and year out, civil servants and others within the ambit of the Official Secrets Acts spin our paper documentation at the rate of 100 miles of shelving a year. Most of it is merely of ephemeral administrative significance, but it includes much of the essential source material with which the history of our times will eventually be written. The problem is to separate the gold from the dross—especially since historians have developed statistical methods of study which can extract gold from dross, while the undoubted gold includes material sensitive on security or political grounds which some would prefer never to come to light at all.

As yesterday's report by Sir Duncan Wilson comments, it is impossible ever to satisfy all those with inevitably conflicting interests in the fate of these miles of paper. At first sight, his committee's conclusions may seem to indicate that our record on records is quite satisfactory; indeed, there are already signs that that may be the preferred official interpretation of Sir Duncan's work. He calls for no new legislation, and broadly endorses the judgments of the last major review of the subject, the Grigg report of 1954—whose main recommendations were embodied in the Public Records Act, 1958. But he considers that nevertheless the system has not been working according to the spirit or the letter of Grigg, and finds this "a sobering commentary on the ability of government to implement administrative reforms which it accepted wholeheartedly and embodied in legislation".

It is not only the Whitehall instinct for secrecy which has frustrated the aims of the Grigg report. Those involved in government easily come to assume that it is all about the present and the future, and not the past. Safeguarding the archive is sometimes seen, says Sir Duncan, as merely "a yawn". The staff assigned in the various ministries to do the first weeding out of papers not yet five years old—a process which discards ninety-nine of those 100 miles of paper every year before the remainder are packed off to the Public Record Office—are usually branch or junior officers without the experience that Grigg saw to be necessary. New methods of filing have made selection not easier but more difficult. The committee assigned to propose criteria for the saving of significant samples of dross for the benefit of statistical historians quietly expired ten years ago, having contributed pitiably few yards of paper to the annual milage, and having had pitiably little influence on those whose task it is to shorten the miles. Too often, dry policy papers survive while the "rich and significant illustrative material" on which they were based vanishes.

In the matter of secrecy, the report is confident that practice could be liberalized without risk to security or excessive administrative inconvenience. It rightly insists that while international political factors may require that some papers be withheld from the public for more than the usual thirty years, party political sensitivities never should. And in principle, no official file should be considered so sensitive that the authorities can be justified in locking it up and throwing away the key.

Inadequate supervision, inadequate resources and low esteem are at the root of the problem. In the era before Grigg, the public archive was held purely at the discretion of the Master of the Rolls. Today the responsibility lies with a minister accountable to Parliament, the Lord Chancellor. But his power is still too little supervised: the system should be accessible to examination by select committee, and even though secrecy must inevitably surround the treatment of secret papers, it should be possible for selected members of the Advisory Council on Public Records to be allowed some insight into the way the security rules are being applied.

As far as resources are concerned, the report's conclusion that the PRO's cost is modest by international standards, as well as absolutely, confirms how wrong the Government were last year to demand from it spending cuts twice as severe as those imposed on the public sector as a whole. Even in the Lord Chancellor's office, it appears, the historical fallacy that archives are a yawn is lodged. Every year the growing number of professional and amateur historians, journalists and genealogists seeking to consult the embodied memory of our state at Kew or at Chancery Lane bear witness to the depth of that misconception. The Wilson report must not be frustrated and forgotten as the Grigg report has been.

A crystal palace

From Mrs Irina Brunt

Sir, The unthinkable attitude, described by Lord Kennet (letter March 23), of the Department of the Environment towards our heritage, and in particular Beverley Minster, makes us write to you with another example, at least as tragic, threatening the conservatory (a Grade I listed building) in the historic gardens of Chiswick House. The conservatory is mentioned by the sixth Duke of Devonshire in a letter to his grandmother dated October 11, 1813, and is clearly shown on a parish map of the Tithe Redemption Commission dated April 21, 1847, on the same site as it is now on and of the same shape and size. Now a senior official at the DOE has suggested to Hounslow Council that, as it is unlikely that the conservatory was designed by Joseph Paxton, who built the Crystal Palace and the Chatsworth Conservatory, it may now be de-listed (being pre-Paxton!)

Hounslow Council eagerly took up the DOE's lead within three days of its being made public. On March 16 it moved to apply for de-listing, which would allow the Council to avoid "the same attention to historic or architectural detail" in order that, it admits, it "could make use of modern materials" (plastic instead of glass). On the Borough Architect's own admission, that would produce "a less elegant building".

Nothing short of the personal intervention of the Secretary of State, Mr Heseltine, can stop the vandalizing of our heritage.

The Chiswick Conservatory is well recognized among this country's leading authorities as the unique forerunner of the nineteenth century glass-house tradition. Of particular note in this context is the central rotunda with its elegant cast-iron columns supporting a lantern and dome in the anglicised Italianate manner—a near perfect complement to the Italian gardens set out by the sixth Duke of Devonshire. Remembering how the then authorities, in even more difficult circumstances, arranged for the immediate repair of the conservatory after it had been severely damaged by a high explosive bomb on September 28, 1940, are we now to accept at the end of the twentieth century a plastic effort in its place?

Yours faithfully,
IRINA BRUNT,
Honorary Secretary,
Chiswick House Area Residents Association,
36 Park Road, W4.
March 29.

Local authority spending

From the Leader of Kent County Council

Sir, Having read your leader article (March 24) entitled "Britain's soaring rates" a number of times, I am still not clear whether you subscribe to the view that "there is a conspiracy of irresponsible council treasurers which is mocking the pain and suffering of the community". Whether that is your view or not please allow me to make it clear that this is not the case.

The average rate increases of 20 per cent for 1981-82 will certainly reflect some large increases in rates by profligate local authorities but it will also reflect low increases by many prudent authorities making real efforts to balance the needs for economy with the community's demand for services.

There is a great danger that commentators will reach the wrong conclusions about accountability in local government by limiting their attention to the widely reported excesses of authorities like Camden, Lambeth, Sheffield, etc, when the majority of authorities are acting reasonably. No system is perfect, and I think it might be helpful for me to point out some redeeming features of the present system of local government.

First, although I am numbered among the critics of Mr Heseltine's block grant, it has served to throw into focus some of the excesses of the lunatic fringe of local authorities. These excesses will I am sure figure prominently in the forthcoming elections when ratepayers will have the opportunity to indicate their disapproval of this sort of irresponsible behaviour.

Secondly, your leading article does not mention the audit of local authorities. At the moment local authorities can choose their own auditors—either an approved firm (often an internationally known one) or more usually the district auditor. Recent events in Camden, where the district auditor is investigating overspending, show what a vital role this mechanism plays in strengthening the accountability of local authorities. That is not to say that auditors should be used to threaten local authorities, but they should be recognized as an essential feature in maintaining the accountability of local authorities, thus preserving local autonomy.

Finally, can I repeat yet again the basic truth that, on the evidence of the record, local government is a better performer than central government in the control of resources? In 1981-82 local authorities will spend nearly 21 per cent less than they did in 1975-76 while central government will be spending nearly 8 per cent more. In this period local authority spending as a percentage of total public spending has declined from 29.9 to 25.6.

Instead of central government attempting to extend its control of local government, the nation would be better served if it tried harder to understand the message that local control coupled with local accountability in manageable packages produces better results than making the inevitable mistakes at the centre and getting it wrong for everyone.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GRUGEON,
County Hall,
Maidstone,
Kent.
March 26.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Monetarism: the blame and the sequel

From Mr R. G. Opie

Sir, The petition signed by 364 academic economists raises two important questions.

First, whose responsibility, indeed whose fault, was it that the wicked nonsense that lies at the basis of the Government's economic policies could triumph? Very few academic economists are or have ever been monetarists. Yet many intelligent, interested and concerned people in the City, in Fleet Street and in politics were, and a few still are, ardent believers. These last are guilty of serious sins of commission, but the sin of omission by the academic is no less grave. How, why, did we fail to strangle this theory at birth? Indeed, why did so few of us even try?

The whole country has paid a high price for this treason of the academics. Over the years to come, it will no doubt be a fruitful area of research for sociologists, psychologists and possibly psychiatrists.

The second problem lies in the future. Inflation has been reduced only by deflation and intolerable unemployment. It will accelerate again when costs rise. That will certainly happen when demand rises unless we are very lucky.

Stocks of finished goods will have been reduced to rockbottom. Investment in the creation of new capacity will have been cut savagely. Labour will be untrained in the new skills required. As output cannot easily or quickly be expanded, extra spending will create shortages, raise imports and raise costs. The exchange rate will slide, and imports will rise in price as well as in volume. Wages will rise too as profits rise and employers bid competitively for labour.

How can we escape this trap except by a planned, phased and sustained growth of spending on investment and retraining starting now and continuing for many years? Or are we doomed to a future which depends for its stability on the reserve army of unemployed predicted by Karl Marx? That is no guarantee of stability but it is one of continuing poverty, unhappiness and even despair.

Yours faithfully,
R. G. OPIE,
New College, Oxford.
March 30.

From Mr W. J. Hopper, MEP for Greater Manchester West (Conservative)

Sir, The statement by 364 economists is amazing. It says that "there are alternative policies". Presumably workable policies. What a wonderful academic supermarket these economists live in, where more than one workable policy can be lifted off the shelf.

The practical man is puzzled. If workable policies are available, why did the distinguished former Chief Economic Advisers not apply them when they held sway? Or are we in trouble now because they did apply them? And why do they not disclose them now? One suspects there are 364 different opinions about policy, whence the notable silence on this point.

HM Treasury is seeking to apply, in most difficult circumstances, a balanced economic policy in which control of the money supply is one element among others. Other elements are the need for fiscal discipline, the maintenance of the high level of productive investment in the public and private sectors and, above all, avoidance of a situation where HM Government pays the wages of its employees out of the proceeds of borrowing. Not easy to achieve, but we shall overcome.

The danger arising from the statement is that it will lead to calls from the untutored for fiscal stimulation which will end in renewed inflation and yet higher unemployment.

Yours faithfully,
W. J. HOPPER,
15 Chepstow Villas, W11.
March 30.

From Mr William Firth

Sir, The fact that 364 of Britain's leading academic economists, including no fewer than five previous advisers to the Government of the day, have attacked the Government's economic policies, has finally convinced me (and I suspect thousands of others) that Mrs Thatcher must be right.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM FIRTH,
112 Preston Old Road,
Blackpool,
Lancashire.
March 30.

Equality battles still to be won

From Mrs Michael Foot

Sir, Your correspondents from Dulwich (March 25) who wish to abolish the Equal Opportunities Commission, mainly because they have done well without its assistance, join the ranks of self-satisfied blacklegs. These blacklegs have plagued the women's movement ever since George Eliot, feeling no need of a vote, refused to sign the petition for women's suffrage, unlike Florence Nightingale, Josephine Butler and many more of her eminent contemporaries.

The existence of the EOC, say the correspondents, "is counter-productive, increasing animosities at a time when job opportunities . . . are diminishing". Feminist demands increase animosities whatever the prevailing conditions, as they did when women fought for the right of married mothers to become legal guardians of their own children, for the right of wives to ownership of the money they earned, for the right to prevent unqualified midwives from delivering babies, for the right of equality in the divorce laws, for the right of women to sit on juries, and much else besides.

Unemployment makes no difference to the injustice of preventing women from engaging in particular occupations simply because they are women. Several male-dominated management committees have refused to adopt a woman as a parliamentary candidate. Betty Lockwood (March 28) gave many other examples. Unfortunately, rejections for reasons of prejudice are difficult to prove.

On childcare, the correspondents profess to believe that the EOC has as its objective a takeover by the state of the care of all children. They say that this policy is given "a nightmare realism" by the EOC's declared interest in bringing out of the home and into the labour market even those women who have hitherto shown no such inclination.

Leaving aside the absurdity of suggesting that the commission is plotting a takeover by the state of the care of all children, the comfortably placed ladies of Dulwich clearly have no knowledge of life in some of our massive council estates. They have never heard of the terms commonly used by social workers, "tower-block neurosis" and "council-estate sickness". A mother cut off from the ground with an infant and older child eager to run about, but having no space within calling distance other than a landing and lift, is often put to her wits' end to cope. Unable to employ an au pair, removed from friendly neighbours, far away from a street market—the bugbear of planners—and other feminine delights and facilities, she loses zest for life.

To get away for a few hours a day on her own into a part-time job is for her a very pressing necessity, whether she knows it or not, especially if her husband, understandably depressed by conditions at home, spends most of his evenings and his money out with his workmates.

Indeed the battery-hen housing, inhuman slab-blocks, monotonous estates and most city developments, whether perpetrated by Tory or Labour councils or private developers, stand supreme both as symbols and indictments of the dominance of harsh, dictatorial masculine values. Indirectly, the commission exists to assist in introducing a balance of softer feminine values into all our organizations.

The EOC's work may not be entirely satisfactory, but so far from wishing the commission to be abolished, many of us would like it to be strengthened and given a fresh impetus and publicity, maybe with assistance from a national figure with an undisputed gift for leadership.

Yours faithfully,
JILL CRAIGIE,
66 Pilgrim's Lane, NW3.

From Miss P. M. Lewis and others

Sir, As female nuclear physicists we strongly disagree with the views of Mrs Joanna Bogle and friends (March 25) regarding the Equal Opportunities Commission. In fact we would like to see the expansion of this body.

There are very few women in physics, right from O-level classes to chiefs of industry and professors in universities. The EOC has obviously much work to do in schools to encourage girls to do science at an early age and rectify this ridiculous situation. It irritates us to be continually told how "unusual" we are—we are not. We were lucky in having enlightened parents, teachers and university professors throughout our careers.

It would seem that Mrs Bogle et al are confusing the ideas of equality and identicality. However, equal opportunity is a far cry from "unisex".

We were staggered to see that the EOC receives so little money for the tremendous amount of work which has to be done. When female physicists are no longer regarded as a curiosity, the EOC may consider its work successfully completed.

Yours faithfully,
P. M. LEWIS,
E. E. LAIRD,
G. M. HAYES,
F. KHAZAIE,
J. M. BARNWELL,
Department of Physics,
University of Birmingham,
PO Box 363,
Birmingham.
March 30.

From Mrs Pamela Anderson

Sir, I give university lectures in women's studies in a rural Somerset town, with a class of over 20 women (and a waiting list) whose ages vary from early twenties to the middle sixties and who come from an amazing cross-section of backgrounds in country life. I can only assume that your correspondent and her women acquaintances (March 25) live in a totally different world.

We as a group have found that many things have changed for the better with the help of the Equal Opportunities Commission, and that many new avenues for better working life and better home life for men and women have opened up, eg husband-and-wife contract-milking teams, part-time women doctors and part-time office managers.

Teachers and others of us in the country all want to see our girls having more educational opportunities and a further share in the continuing changes which are today irreversibly taking place. We all believe (and we all have reasonable evidence to support our belief) that equality of opportunity makes for a better family life and for stabler marriages. I suggest that your poor lady correspondents should meet some of the real grass-roots people who have benefited and who are continuing to benefit from the work of the EOC.

Yours faithfully,
PAMELA ANDERSON,
Ferndale,
South Street, Castle Cary,
Somerset.

From Dr Rosalie Silverstone

Sir, When half our members of Parliament are women and when half the fathers of this country share the upbringing of their children with mothers, then we shall have no need for an Equal Opportunities Commission (letters, March 25). Only then will men and women be equally free to use their "own natural talents" for the benefit of the whole community.

Yours faithfully,
ROSALIE SILVERSTONE,
The Fawcett Society,
Parnell House,
25 Wilton Road, SW1.

Albania and its gold

From Lord Bristol

Sir, With regard to Mr William Wilson's letter to you (March 14), signed by him as MP for Coventry SE (Labour) and others, this appears to have stimulated comment in the media generally about Albanian gold held in Britain by the Bank of England. It, however, gives no regard as to why this gold is held or other over-riding issues.

Perhaps Mr Wilson and his Labour friends do not understand or wish to understand the following points:

1. The gold can only be returned after an agreement between members of a tripartite commission set up after the war. The members are Britain, France and America. This gold, valued at £10-20 billion sterling, was looted by the Nazis, taken to Britain and held in the Bank of England for safe keeping.
2. The legal Albanian Government in Exile is a bona fide government headed by His Majesty King Leka I of the Albanians. His Queen is the beautiful Australian girl, previously Susan Ward. King Leka never abdicated. He left the country voluntarily to prevent the certain possibility of being executed or incarcerated by the revolutionaries.
3. There are more refugee Albanians outside Albania than still live in the country, which is dominated by a special breed of communism, all of its own.

The gold when released, after an amount is deducted to cover any claim including one for £800,000 by the British Government, should be released to the administration of King Leka and his legal government, who may be prepared to do a deal with the rebel government in Albania. That deal could be one backed by world confidence to create industry and agricultural activity in Albania, which at the present ekes out a bare subsistence return—and gets a little bit of help from whatever main Communist country it can so do, without an entanglement.

Yours faithfully,
BRISTOL,
Le Formentor,
Avenue Princesse Grace,
Monte Carlo,
Principality of Monaco.
March 19.

The Pencourt interview

From Mr Peter Hardiman-Scott

Sir, Sir Harold Wilson is quoted in The Times today (March 30) as saying that "the Director General of the BBC approached me and asked me if I would see two BBC researchers", Messrs Penrose and Courtiour. This does not quite correspond with my own recollection, or with the record that I kept at the time, when I was chief assistant to the then Director General, Sir Charles Curran.

Early in May, 1976, Messrs Penrose and Courtiour offered to the BBC material which seemed to support Sir Harold Wilson's earlier public allegations that South African interests had been active in trying to discredit some British politicians. They claim to have shown the material to Sir Harold, who had asked for an assurance that they were working with proper authority for the BBC, and he wanted that assurance from the Director General himself.

Sir Charles accordingly agreed to go to see Sir Harold, and contact was made through the intermediary of Penrose and Courtiour. I had intended to accompany Sir Charles, and he and I were surprised to be told that he must go only accompanied by Penrose and Courtiour. I do not, of course, know whether this was at Sir Harold's instruction. There is an account of that meeting in The Pencourt File, and I've no reason to doubt its accuracy.

I am not aware—except perhaps on a social occasion—that Sir Charles ever went to see Sir Harold again on this matter, but on August 6, 1976, he did write to Sir Harold, who was then in the Scilly Isles, and privately and confidentially indicated that the BBC's links with Penrose and Courtiour were about to be severed because they had declined to sign a contract with the BBC in the terms that the BBC demanded—namely, the total editorial control over all their material.

Yours etc,
PETER HARDIMAN-SCOTT,
4 Butchers Lane,
Boxford,
Colchester,
Essex.
March 30.

Social Democrat policies

From Mr J. R. I. King

Sir, "Most of the policies which they [the Social Democrats] put forward in their 12-point programme yesterday are ones which we as a newspaper have long supported" (The Times, March 27).

"This [the Social Democrats' stand] is a mix of commitments close to that which this paper has advocated over the years" (The Guardian, March 27).

All things to all editors?

Yours faithfully,
J. R. I. KING,
18 Kidbrooke Park Road,
Blackheath, SE3.

Repairing the law

From Mr W. J. Blair

Sir, The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings is indeed to be congratulated on obtaining a conviction in the Lincolnshire almshouses case (Report, March 27). But how derisory the penalty! For a fine of £1,000 (the statutory maximum) and £2,000 costs, the guilty owner has cleared his site and avoided a repairs bill of £14,000. The Town and Country Planning Act and the Ancient Monuments Act will never protect buildings effectively until financial incentives to defy the law are outweighed by realistic fines or imprisonment.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BLAIR,
Brasenose College,
Oxford.
March 27.

Yorkshire's achievement

From Mr Christopher Fry

Sir, What Dorothy Tutin said about the work of Yorkshire Television in your columns (March 26) was true in every part. The encouragement of writers, new and established (and both need the encouragement equally) has been splendid, and the handling of the plays, in casting, direction and design, of a kind to make any author purr.

It would be a backward step indeed for television generally if the franchise for Yorkshire could not be extended.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER FRY,
The Toft,
East Dean,
Chichester,
Sussex.
March 27.

The Pope and birth control

From Father Arthur McCormack

Sir, I was rather shocked that Dom Bernard Orchard, OSB, should have written as he did (March 14) in reply to the article on March 9 by Clifford Longley on the Pope and birth control. The particular point I want to single out is his remark (in referring to Longley's argument as "feeble and irrelevant") about "overpopulation (whatever that may mean)" (my italics). This showed a frivolous lack of knowledge and concern for one of the greatest issues of our age that was embarrassing to one who respects Fr Orchard as a distinguished biblical expert of world-wide renown and meticulous scholarship.

Incidentally, over 80 per cent of the populations of the Third World live in countries which have population programmes including contraception for the reduction of rates of population growth. This shows the statement of Fr Orchard that "contraception has already been rejected by the Third World", to be rather inaccurate.

Yours,
ARTHUR McCORMACK,
Population and Development Office,
Via della Conciliazione 51,
00193 Roma, Italy.

Pass with honours

From Chester Herald of Arms

Sir, I do agree with Mr Nightingale (March 25) that the inclusion of the signature and coat of arms of the Foreign Secretary in our new burgundy-coloured passports would add a comforting personal touch. I would mention, however, that the arms borne by the present Foreign Secretary are those of Smith (his paternal ancestors) rather than Carrington, though they would be no less welcome for that.

What a relief that the royal arms are to be retained and that your leading article of March 21 calls them by their proper name. I winced when a certain noble lord who represents us in the European Parliament described them in a recent radio interview as the royal crest. Surely he should have learnt in his youth at Harrow that the crest is the topmost part of a coat of arms, like the crest of a bird, a hill or a wave. It is not the whole coat of arms and, as it happens, the version of the royal arms on the present passport contains no crest at all.

Yours faithfully,
HUBERT CHESSHYRE,
College of Arms,
Queen Victoria Street, EC4.

Worse than the disease

From Professor Dennis Nineham

Sir, In today's issue (March 27) my friend Mr Colin Haycraft expresses surprise that the expression "throwing out the baby with the bath water" has been traced no further back than to Bernard Shaw. According to Arthur Koestler in The Sleepwalkers (p 245 and note 16) it is already to be found in Kepler, who used it in a motto prefixed to his Tertius interveniens.

Yours faithfully,
D. E. NINEHAM,
University of Bristol,
(Department of Theology),
Royal Fort House,
Tyndall Avenue, Bristol.
March 27.

Bill of Rights call

From Mr N. G. Murray

Sir, May I add a plea in support of Mr Geoffrey Rippon (March 30)?

Article 13 of the European Convention of Human Rights provides: "Everyone whose rights and freedoms as set forth in this convention are violated shall have an effective remedy before a national authority" (my italics).

Can we not now belatedly satisfy this obligation?

Yours faithfully,
NIGEL MURRAY,
2 Paper Buildings,
Temple, EC4.
March 30.

Iceberg of the tip

From Lord Kingsale and Ringrone

Sir, Mr Levin's article in The Times today (March 19) on the subject of tipping is most revealing. It is, of course, only the middle class which worries about tipping: the lower classes, unthinking, do not tip; the upper classes, unquestioning, do. We can subdivide even further: the lower middle classes, haltered by their awareness of their own base origins, grumblingly under-tip; the upper middle classes, conceiving that thereby they may ape their betters, ostentatiously over-tip; the middle middle classes, endlessly explanatory and tiresomely discursive, award a 12½ per cent gratuity. The graceless Americans, quite out of their depths where the niceties of social distinction are concerned, invariably get both tip and recipient wrong; the Australians are the most generous and undiscriminating of all tippers.

These observations are based on my own experiences as a Safari Park driver, when I accepted, without any feeling of inferiority, all tips that came my way, and was offended only when some pompous ass assumed that he should not tip me. Incidentally, I spent all my tips on drink.

I remain, Sir, yours degradedly,
KINGSALE,
Orchard Villa,
Upton Noble,
Somerset.
March 19.

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
March 31: The Duke of Edinburgh, as Patron of the Conference on Human Value, this morning attended the opening of the Conference at Queen Elizabeth Hall, London, SE1.
Mr Richard Davies was in attendance.

His Excellency the Netherlands Ambassador and Madame Fack, His Excellency the High Commissioner for Guyana and Mrs Grant, the Earl and Countess of Crawford and Balcarres, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lady Howe, the Hon Richard and Mrs Butler, the Most Reverend Derek Worlock, Professor Michael Howard, Dr and Mrs Max Perutz and Mr and Mrs Richard Rogers have arrived at Windsor Castle.

Mrs John Dugdale has succeeded Lady Abel Smith as Lady in Waiting to the Queen.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 31: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, the British Mexican Society, attended a Reception at Canning House, Belgrave Square, London, this evening.
Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Bland was in attendance.

Princess Alexandra will visit Rochdale on May 13 to open the Toad Lane Project, the newly restored birthplace of the Co-operative Movement, and will visit St Luke's Church of England Primary School at Heywood.

The Countess of Caithness gave birth to a son on March 26, in Oxford.

Lady Barnetson and family wish to thank friends and business associates of Lord Barnetson for all their flowers, donations to charity and messages of condolence.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Lord Barnetson will be held in St Paul's Cathedral on Friday, May 1, at noon.

The *Primrose League* will hold a commemorative service to mark the centenary of the death (April 19, 1881) of Benjamin Disraeli, Earl of Beaconsfield, on Thursday, April 9, at 5 pm, at St Margaret's, Westminster. No tickets will be required.

Birthdays today

Viscount Bridgeman, 85; Major-General J. R. C. Hamilton, 75; Sir Paul Hasluck, 76; Sir Nicholas Henderson, 62; Mr Tom Jackson, 56; Baroness McFarlane of Llandaff, 55; Mr Steve Race, 60; the Earl of Stradbroke, 78.

Bishop's sabbatical

The Bishop of Liverpool, the Right Rev David Sheppard, is taking a four-month sabbatical from Easter Monday for a holiday and to write a book on the church in cities.

Forthcoming marriages

Lord Balgonie and Miss J. C. Critchley
The engagement is announced between David, eldest son of The Earl and Countess of Leven and Melville, of Glenferness House, Glenferness, Nairn, and Julia Clare, younger daughter of Colonel and Mrs I. R. Critchley, of Lindores, Muthill, Perthshire.

Dr O. Debarge and the Hon Robina Cayzer
The engagement is announced between Olivier, son of the late M Debarge and Mme Debarge, of Paris, and Robina, daughter of Lord Rotherwick and the late Lady Rotherwick, of Cornbury Park, Charlbury, Oxfordshire.

Mr A. K. Cameron and Miss J. C. MacLellan
The engagement is announced between Archie, son of Major and Mrs Allan Cameron, of Allangrange, Munlochy, Ross-shire, and Julia Caroline, daughter of Mrs Roderick MacLellan and the late Mr Roderick MacLellan, of Benard, Buchlyvie, Stirlingshire.

Mr D. Gray and Miss A. Laurie
The engagement is announced between Dominic, son of Dr Margaret Gray, of 53 Putney Hill, SW15, and Amanda, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel David Laurie, of 38 Cadogan Lane, SW1, and of Mrs Tessa Laurie, of The Old Vicarage, Weston on the Green, Oxfordshire.

Mr D. T. King and Miss E. W. Hamilton
The engagement is announced between David Thomas, second son of Mr and Mrs S. A. King, of Londonderry, Northern Ireland, and Eleanor Warwick, only daughter of Mr S. W. G. Hamilton and Mrs G. A. Fox, both of Harrogate, Yorkshire.

Mr K. J. M. Madocks Wright and Miss H. E. Gibbs
The engagement is announced between Kenwyn, elder son of the late Captain L. A. H. Wright, Royal Navy (ret) and Mrs Wright, of Saxelby Park, Melton Mowbray, and Henrietta, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs R. T. Gibbs, of Creaton Lodge, Northampton.

Mr M. O. McL Mills and Miss D. S. Powell
The engagement is announced between Mark Oliver McLay Mills, Virginia Episcopal Theological Seminary, Alexandria, Virginia, United States, elder son of Mr and Mrs Neil Mills, of The Dower House, Upton Grey, nr Basingstoke, Hampshire, and Dana Sedgwick, fourth daughter of Mr and Mrs Alanson Powell, of Port Orchard, Washington, United States.

Marriage

Mr J. P. Parry-Crooke and Miss V. M. Gini
The marriage of Mr John Parry-Crooke and Miss Vivienne Gini took place on Saturday, March 28, 1981, in New Zealand.

Photograph by Bill Warhurst

Drillground ace: Captain Nicola Russell, of the Royal Army Dental Corps, who yesterday received the Pearson Cup for the dental officer showing the best military skills in 1980.

Luncheons

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister was host at a luncheon at 10 Downing Street on Monday in honour Dr Manuel Ulloa Elias, Prime Minister and Minister of Economy, Finance and Commerce of Peru. The other guests were:
The Chargé d'Affaires of Peru and Señora de Rivero, Dr Sergio Malaga, Vice-Admiral Ricardo Zevallos Newton, Dr and Señora Roberto Danino, Señora Elvira de Garcia de Ribeyro; Mr Nigel Lawson, MP, and Mrs Lawson, the Hon Nicholas Ridley, MP, and Mrs Ridley, Mr Cecil Parkinson, MP, and Mrs Parkinson, the Earl of Limerick, Lord and Lady Weinstock, Mr Gordon Richardson, Sir Arthur and Lady Marshall, Sir David and Lady Steel, Sir Reginald and Lady Smith, Sir Berkeley and Lady Gage, Mr and Mrs Dirk de Bruyne, Mr and Mrs D. A. Holland, Mr and Mrs J. J. Fraser, Mr and Mrs John Hull, Mr and Mrs J. P. Du Cane, Mr Cranley Onslow, MP, and Lady June Onslow, Mr James Lamond, MP, and Mrs Lamond, Mr William Shelton, MP, and Mrs Shelton, Mr Peter Lloyd, MP, and Mrs Lloyd, Mr and Mrs P. Brauser, Mr A. B. Henderson, Mr Harold Evans, Mr and Mrs K. D. Jamieson, Mr and Mrs J. H. Hemming, Dr Ann Kendall, Professor and Mrs Hugh Thomas, Mr and Mrs K. J. Sidey, Sir Donald and Lady Maitland, Mr and Mrs Derek Day, Mr Ian Gow, MP, and Mr Michael Alexander.

HM Government
Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday given in honour of the High Commissioner for Fiji.

GLC
The Chairman of the GLC was host at a council day luncheon at the County Hall yesterday. The guests included:
The High Commissioner for Dominica, Mr Jack Carsons, Dr Kenneth G. Greet, Mr Trevor Holdsworth, Mr Eric Hope, Mr H. W. S. Horlock, the Rev C. E. Leighton Thomson, Mr E. I. D. McCoy and the Hon Timothy Sainsbury, MP.

Receptions

HM Government
Lord Lyell was host at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government in Edinburgh Castle yesterday to mark the fourteenth conference of the Federation of European Biochemical Societies.

Council for Education in World Citizenship
The Speaker opened an exhibition of the work of the Council for Education in World Citizenship at the House of Commons yesterday. Mr Christopher Price, MP, Chairman of the Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts, was host at a reception held afterwards.

Dinners

HM Government
Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, was host at a dinner given at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday in honour of Dr Manuel Elias, Prime Minister of Peru. Among those present were:
Dr Sergio Malaga, Dr and Señora Roberto Danino, Vice-Admiral Ricardo Zevallos Newton, Señora Elvira de Garcia Ribeyro, Dr Oswaldo de Rivero; Lord and Lady Trefgarne, Lord and Lady Chalfont, Mr E. Rowlands, MP, Mr M. Neubert, MP, and Mrs Neubert, Professor and Mrs J. Lynch, Mr and Mrs N. Colchester, Mr J. B. Ure and Mr A. D. C. Wood.

City of London Solicitors' Company
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended a ladies' dinner given by the City of London Solicitors' Company at Mansion House last night. Mr John Guillaume, Master, was in the chair and the other speakers were the Lord Mayor, Mr Justice Warner, Mr Jonathan Clarke, President of the Law Society, and Mr Garry Hart. The guests included:
Lady Warner, Mrs Jonathan Clarke, Mrs John Guillaume, the Recorder of London and Mrs Miskin, the Chairman of the Bar and Mrs Du Cann, the Secretary-General of the Law Society and Mrs Bowron, the Deputy Master of Trinity House and Mrs Wingate, the Coroner of the City of London and Mrs Paul, the Chairman of the Baltic Exchange and Mrs Donaldson, the President of the Rating Surveyors' Association and Mrs Eve and the Masters of the Leathersellers', Cutlers', Tallow Chandlers', Butchers' and Farmers' companies and their ladies.

Association of Certified Accountants
The Association of Certified Accountants held its presidential dinner in Guildhall yesterday. Miss Vera di Palma, president of the association, welcomed the guests who included representatives of HM Government, the City, industry and commerce. The principal guests were:
Mr Leon Brittan, MP, Mr Mark Carlisle, QC, MP, Lord Cockfield, the Right Rev G. A. Ellison, Mr E. Seignoret, Mr J. M. Symonds, Sir James Spooner, MEP, and Sir Harold Wilson, MP.

200 Club
The 200 Club, on behalf of the London Irish Rugby Football Club, held a luncheon at the Banqueting and Conference Centre, Shoe Lane, yesterday to present the London Irish challenge trophy for rugby writers, the Leprechaun, to Mr George Abbott. Air Commodore J. R. Forsythe, vice-president of the football club, was in the chair and Mr George Abbott and Mr Vivian Jenkins also spoke.

Royal Society of Medicine
Mr I. W. Broomhead, president of the section of plastic surgery of the Royal Society of Medicine, accompanied by Mrs Broomhead, presided at the annual dinner of the section held at 1 Wimpole Street last night. The guest speaker was Dr Peter Verrill.

Service luncheon

RAF Support Command Signals
Heads of departments of RAF Support Command Signals Headquarters held a luncheon at RAF Benson yesterday to dine out Mr D. J. Gallagher, Chief Design Engineer. Group Captain H. Baxter presided and Air Commodore W. J. J. Northmore, Air Commodore Signals, was among those present.

Guild of Freemen of the City of London

Mr John E. Harvey was installed yesterday as Master of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London for the ensuing year. His Wardens are: Mr H. J. Duckworth, Mr D. J. Eldridge, Mr Kenneth V. Douglass and Mr Deputy Bernard L. Morgan.

£55,000 paid for Cézanne watercolour

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Christie's followed its Monday night bonanza sale of Surrealist with two more sales of Impressionist and modern art yesterday. The three major auctions in this field have thus totalled £5,533,285, with 8 per cent unsold.

Yesterday's results reversed the trends of a year ago. Major oil paintings were in strong demand making a total of £224,925, with 9 per cent unsold. But drawings and watercolours, a much stronger sector last year, saw 33 per cent left unsold out of the £336,560 total.

There were, nevertheless, two outstanding prices for drawings. A brilliant but slight watercolour rendering of a tree by Cézanne, "La Chêne", dating from around 1885-90, sold for £55,000 (estimate £50,000 to £60,000); a mysterious Odilon Redon pastel of a lady's head, "Femme voilée", made £47,000 (estimate £20,000 to £25,000). The purchasers of both works anonymous.

At Sotheby's Belgravia the sale of middle-grade Victorian paintings proved much more difficult than for the top quality works offered last week. About 28 per cent of the £90,840 total was left unsold, with a top price of £2,000 (estimate £1,500 to £3,000) for a marine picture, "A Dead Calm", by Thomas Jacques Somerscales.

At Phillips a sale of furniture and works of art made £174,752, with 15 per cent unsold. Steinitz, a French dealer, paid £13,000 (estimate £8,000 to £10,000) for a fine Régence bureau Mazarin.

Two bone and horn ship models made by Napoleonic prisoners-of-war reached the same price. One had been estimated at £8,000 to £10,000 and the other at £10,000 to £12,000. They went to Telecamp, a dealer from Germany, and Lloyd, a Surrey dealer.

Fine miniatures and objects of virtu at Christie's totalled £174,153, with 13 per cent unsold. The star piece was a seventeenth-century, gold-mounted emerald-cameo ring, the emerald being carved with a profile of Charles I. It was sold to Blenheim Antiques for £7,000 (estimate £2,500 to £3,500).

Today's engagements

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother attends reception to mark centenary of Church of England Children's Society, St James's Palace, 3.45.

Princess Margaret, as president, attends performance to celebrate fiftieth anniversary of Sadler's Wells Theatre, 7.20.

Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester visits Coventry as part of International Year for Disabled People, 11.15.

The Duke of Kent, as vice-chairman of British Overseas Trade Board, visits factories at Newton Abbot, Devon, of Watts, Blake Bearne and Co, 11; Watermota, 2.45; Centrax Group, 3.30.

Talks: "The art of drawing; The connoisseur and old master drawings", by Ronald Parkinson, Victoria and Albert museum, 1.15; "The spirit of the nation, 5: Industry", by Walter Goldsmith, director-general, Institute of Directors, St Lawrence Jewry, 1.15; "An evening with Renata Scott", Music Club of London, French Institute, Queensberry Place, 7.30; "Designing women", by Pamela Jarvis, Royal Society of Arts, 8 John Adam Street, 6.

Worthless Words presents "Daredevil Poetry": Poetry, prose, music and mime, Three Horseshoes, Heath Street, Hampstead, 7.30.

Exhibitions: Jacqui Poncelet, ceramics, Crafts Council Gallery, 12 Waterloo Place, Covent Garden, 10 to 5; "Painting the town", Battersea Arts Centre, Lavender Hill, 11 to 9.

Lunchtime music: Elizabeth Butler, viola, Sarah Streatfield, violin, and Paul Willey, violin, St Olave, Hart Street, 1.05; Kathleen Summers, soprano, Holy Sepulchre, 1.15; Eleanor Richards, Baroque Group, St Martin-within-Ludgate, 1.15.

The Night Sky in April

By Our Astronomy Correspondent

Mercury will be a morning object until superior conjunction on the 27th, but will be too close to the Sun for observation.

Venus will come to superior conjunction on the 7th and will also be too close to the Sun for observation.

Mars, like the two previous planets, is on the far side of its orbit, being in conjunction on the 2nd.

Jupiter is retrograding in Virgo and is prominent in the south to south-west until it sets in the early morning. Its magnitude is −2.0 and it is still less than two degrees from Saturn.

Saturn is much less bright than Jupiter, with a magnitude of +0.7, and is retrograding more slowly so the separation between them will increase during the month. Moon close to both of them on the evening of the 16th and will be in conjunction with them, Jupiter first, in the early hours of the 17th.

Uranus will be rising before midnight but just fails to get on our map.

Neptune will be rising after midnight at the beginning of the month and before it at the end.

Pluto is not normally mentioned in these notes, but it will be in opposition on the 13th, magnitude 14, in the northern part of Virgo.

The Moon: new, 4d20h; first quarter, 11d11h; full, 19d08h; last quarter, 27d10h.

Algol: approximate times of evening minima are about midnight 17th-18th and 20d21h.

In any list of planets Pluto appears as the one farthest from the Sun, at a distance of 39 astronomical units compared with 30 for Neptune. The astronomical unit is the Sun-Earth distance of 150 million km or 93 million miles. Pluto, however, is rather a "rogue" planet, for the eccentricity of its orbit, the number denoting its departure from a circle, is 0.25 (next highest, Mercury 0.21) and its inclination from the plane of the Earth's orbit 17° (next, Mercury 7°). This means that the distance of Pluto varies widely and at the minimum distance from the Sun, perihelion due in 1989, is only 28.9 units. Thus it will not then be the farthest planet, and will not be so again until 1998. It has been nearer than Neptune since January 1979. Its distance from us is affected by the motion of the Earth as well. We are approaching Neptune which is in Ophiuchus and will soon be receding from Pluto in Virgo, so from June to November Pluto will be farther from the Earth (though not from the Sun) than is Neptune.

March 13th last was the bicentenary of the discovery of Uranus, and on the 14th-16th of this month astronomers are meeting in Bath to hold a "Uranus conference" in commemoration. There is a link between this plant and Pluto. The motion of a planet is disturbed by the gravitational effect of other planets, and in 1915 Percival Lowell came to the conclusion that a hitherto undiscovered outer planet was disturbing Uranus. Searches for the object were unsuccessful until February 18, 1930. To mark the fiftieth anniversary, on that date in 1980 a "Pluto conference" was held in Las Cruces, USA, at which the discoverer, Professional Clyde Tombaugh, was present. Pluto is a small rocky body about 3,000km in diameter and now believed to have one satelite, named Charon, discovered in 1979.

The turn of the year is now obvious. By mid-April civil twilight will end and we shall be turning on the lights at 19h35m (or about half-past eight by the clock) and the sky will not be astronomically dark until after 21h. By this time the splendid Orion will be touching the horizon and the brilliant Sirius not far from it. Leo will be past the meridian and some people will have lost the Plough; of course the Plough is not lost but somehow looks different when it is almost directly overhead. In the southeastern part of the sky the "spring triangle" is prominent, Spica, Denebola and Arcturus. When the Moon is absent do look at the area between the two last named; the star spangled patch of Coma Berenices (Berenices' hair) can be very beautiful.

The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23hr (11 pm) at the beginning, 22hr (10 pm) in the middle and 21hr (9 pm) at the end of the month local Mean Time. At places away from the Greenwich Meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words around the circle) is at the bottom, the zenith being the centre. Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24-hour notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

Science report

Astronomy: Natural Martian laser

From Clive Cookson
of *The Times Higher Education Supplement*
Washington

A natural laser is at work in the atmosphere of Mars, radiating infra red energy into space at a rate of one million megawatts.

A group of NASA scientists from the Goddard Space Flight Centre announced the discovery in *Science*. They say it is the first definite identification of a natural laser.

Since their invention about 25 years ago, lasers have become common tools in the laboratory, industry and medicine. Their name, an acronym for light amplification by stimulated emission of radiation, indicates the basic mechanism by which they operate.

Before a substance can function as a laser, energy must be pumped in so that more molecules are in an "excited state" than in some lower energy level. That condition is known as a population inversion.

If a photon (particle of light) whose energy corresponds exactly to the difference between the two levels strikes an excited molecule, it will emit a second photon with the same energy and return to the lower level. The photons may then encounter other excited molecules, stimulating further emissions and producing a cascade of intense radiation. By pumping the molecules back to an excited state as soon as they have discharged their energy, the radiation can be made continuous.

Despite the abundance of man-made lasers, based on solids, liquids and gases, scientists had not previously identified the phenomenon in nature. Emissions of bright light have been observed, for example, in the auroral glow from the earth and its neighbouring planets, but no one has proved that a population inversion exists and therefore that a laser is responsible. However, natural microwave amplifiers, known as "masers", occur in interstellar gas clouds; they operate like lasers but at far lower energies.

The NASA scientists, led by Dr Michael Mumma, discovered their laser by analyzing infra red radiation of about 10 microns wavelength, which is emitted by the carbon dioxide in the Martian atmosphere between 70 and 90 km above the planet's surface. That corresponds to the loss of vibrational (stretching) energy by the molecules. Other researchers, including Dr Charles Townes, co-inventor of the laser, had noticed the strength of those emissions but they could not be sure what was causing them.

Dr Mumma's group, which includes Dr David Zipoy of the University of Maryland, succeeded by using an instrument invented at the Goddard centre, known as an infra red heterodyne spectrometer. By analysing the shape and intensity of the infra red bands, the scientists established that there was a hundredfold population inversion; a hundred times more carbon dioxide molecules were in the upper than in the lower energy state.

The vibrational energy that powers the martian laser comes originally from sunlight and is distributed among the carbon dioxide molecules by molecular collisions in the atmosphere. A population inversion is established because the atmosphere is so optically dense at certain wavelengths that the infra red energy cannot escape; if a photon leaves one molecule it is almost immediately reabsorbed by another.

According to Dr Mumma, the 10-micron radiation from Mars is one thousand million times more intense than it would be if there was no laser effect and the atmosphere were in equilibrium. The total power of the laser across the daytime face of the planet is about one million megawatts; that is a thousand times the output of a large electric power station.

A carbon dioxide laser used for industrial welding relies on the same mechanism as the natural one on Mars. Indeed, the first terrestrial impact of the NASA discovery may be felt in the American law courts, where hundreds of millions of dollars are at stake in a suit alleging infringement of patent rights on lasers. The demonstration that the phenomenon occurs naturally could weaken the case of the patent holders.

Source: *Science* (Vol 212, pp 45-49, April 3, 1981).

Latest wills

Residue for charities

Alice Ann Henty-Dodd, of Guildford, left estate valued at £211,305 net. After personal bequests of £35,000, her home and effects, she left the residue equally between the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, the RAF Benevolent Fund, the RSPCA, and Help the Aged.

Major William Walter Dowding, of Pewsey, left £1,104,471 net.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Austin, Gladys Edna, of Norwich, intestate £128,987
Baldwin, Mrs Mary Caroline, of Brandon, Suffolk .. £156,662
Burbridge, Mr Edgar John, of Faversham £628,439
Eayrs, Mrs Patricia, of Burleigh, Stroud £164,298
Gardner, Mr Robert Walter, of Eastbourne £176,630
Helman, Mr Emanuel, of Golders Green £243,199
King-Smith, Mr Stanley, of Lewes, motor engineer £149,737
Martin, Mr John Latham, of Poole, insurance manager £163,051
Suckling, Mr John Robert, of Barsham, Suffolk .. £402,567
Todd, Mr Samuel Geoffrey William, of Penrith £139,214
Tucker, Mr Ernest John, of Dursley, Gloucestershire, intestate £144,204
Whittingham, Mr Robert Davie, of Totland, Isle of Wight .. £143,717
Winkfield, Mrs Isabel Laidlaw, of Canford Cliffs, Dorset .. £228,754

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Mr A. C. Buxton, aged 55, Ambassador to Bolivia, to be Ambassador to Ecuador, in succession to Mr J. K. Hickman.

25 years ago

From The Times of Monday, April 2, 1956

Army leaves Egypt

From Our Special Correspondent
Port Said, April 1.—The last British fighting units in the Suez Canal zone—the 2nd Battalion Grenadier Guards and D Squadron Life Guards—embarked in the troopship Devonshire at Abbas quay here yesterday, bringing to an end almost threequarters of a century of British military power in Egypt. The Devonshire sailed early today and is due at Liverpool about April 15. The troops' departure was almost as silent and devoid of ceremony as presumably was the nocturnal disembarcation of the landing party of General Wolseley's forces which captured Port Said 74 years ago. Yesterday was hardly an occasion for pomp but it seems regrettable that such an era in British military annals should have been concluded so unobtrusively, almost in the manner of the Arab folding his tent and stealing away. Fittingly the last on board the white painted ship were the Grenadier Guards, for the Grenadiers fought at the battle of Tel el Kebir in 1882 when Arabi Pasha's army was defeated and the way opened to Cairo.

OBITUARY

ENID BAGNOLD

Author of 'National Velvet'

Enid Bagnold (Lady Jones) CBE, the writer, died yesterday in London at the age of 91.

As a writer, Enid Bagnold's success was perhaps greater with the public than with critics, because versatility and craftsmanship made her suspect to the latter, while ensuring her several large audiences—one for *Serena Blandish*, another for *National Velvet*, a third for *The Chalk Garden*—which rarely came in contact with one another. She never published with the compulsive frequency of the professional writer and never wrote for a living, yet no professional took more care over the sharpening and refinement of language than she.

The daughter of Arthur Henry Bagnold, a professional soldier, she was born in October 1889. She lived as a child in the West Indies, and as an adolescent on Shooter's Hill. Her father, desiring that she should be educated "on sandy soil", sent her to Prior's Field, an establishment run by Aldous Huxley's mother for the children of the intellectually distinguished.

Miss Bagnold told the story of her life in the marvellous *Autobiography* (1969), written at the age of 80 with the vigour of 18. In Chelsea she found Gaudier-Brzeska (who sculpted her head), Sickert (who drew her), Lovat Fraser and Ralph Hodgson. Through the hedge on Shooter's Hill she got to know the d'Erlangers and the brilliant, wealthy and noble Romanian brothers Bibesco.

Sir Roderick Jones, then head of Reuters, married her in 1920 and imperiously whisked her off on a honeymoon in Canada. As a wife she played hostess to him, and in return demanded three hours of writing time each day, which was spent in a tiny sound-proofed room devised for her by Lutyens.

Before her marriage, Enid Bagnold was already known as a writer. Her *Diary Without Dates* (1917), about her nursing experiences, made national headlines and secured her immediate dismissal. She then drove an ambulance in France, which helped her to write *The Happy Foreigner* (1920), a documentary novel of the VAD during and after the war. *Serena Blandish, or The Difficulty of Getting Married* (1924), was published anonymously to spare the feelings of Colonel Bagnold and after she had overcome the difficulty for herself. It had a charm similar to *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, but English upper class. In 1930 came *Alice and Thomas and Jane*, written for her children, and in 1935 the moneyspinning *National Velvet*, a fantasy woven from her family life in Rottingdean.

The Squire (1938) was the least popular of her novels, perhaps because the most personal and the least in line with general experience: it also developed her role, never entirely fitting for one so intelligent, as a great lady and her views on the imperfect independence of women from men. Her final novel, *The Loved and the Envied* (1951), combining her own life with that of Lady Diana Cooper, celebrated a style of existence which antagonized postwar reviewers as much as it delighted a public tired of earnest utility.

She had already turned to the theatre: It demanded a discipline she found stimulating but hard. *Lottie Dundass* (19.. and *National Velvet* (1946) w.. both filmed after success.. stage runs, and each succeed.. play became more and m.. idiosyncratic.

In the *Autobiography* .. describes the agonies and f.. trations o fthe new medium .. the most spectacular theatr.. talents of the day contri.. time and again for what .. considered misleading eff.. of theatricality when she .. aiming for something more c.. austere, even fierce. *The Ch.. Garden* took years of work .. her producer before it c.. triumphantly to the stage, .. in New York, then Lon.. (1956). It was successfully .. vived in 1971. *The Last J..* however (1960), was somewh.. of a disaster, for which .. partly blamed the shade .. Antoine Bibesco, the men.. of whose friendship she .. betrayed by placing him at .. heart of the play.

By the time she wrote .. *Chinese Prime Minister* .. was in full grief for her .. hand and had fallen under .. spell of Ivy Compton Bur.. The dramatic possibilities .. highly artificial prose intrig.. her and in New York (1964) .. once more secured a triu.. In London a year later she .. devastated to find the stoi.. characteristic of all her w.. particularly towards age .. death, and the master-ser.. relationship, reduced to s.. mental charm.

Her other plays were *F.. Judas* (1951), *Gertie* (New Y.. 1952, renamed *Little Idiot*.. London), and *Call Me Ja..* (Oxford 1957, slightly rewor.. as *A Matter of Gravity* .. Broadway, 1975).

There were three sons ar.. daughter of the marriage.

DAI FRANCIS

Dai Francis the Communist former general secretary of the South Wales miners who died on March 30, aged 70, was one of the most widely respected miners' leaders produced in South Wales. His career and his interests ranged beyond the union he had served in various capacities since the 1930s but his life was completely shaped by the coalfield community of which he became such a bright emblem.

He was born in the Dulais valley above Neath on February 5, 1911 into a large coalmining family, and educated at Onllwyn elementary school from 1915 to 1926 when he went to work with his father in Onllwyn number one colliery. The family was Welsh speaking and staunchly congregationalists.

At the same time his father, a Labour voter from 1918, was the only man in the village to buy the *Daily Herald*. After the First World War the parochialism of this rather remote part of the western coalfield was breaking down and the anthracite colliers fierce in their defence of local customs and practice, broadened their horizon. As a boy Dai Francis witnessed the marching gangs of colliers in the great anthracite strike of 1925 that led to a violent clash between the police and the strikers in his valley.

This experience also led him to hear for the first time the man he came most to admire. Arthur Horner came from the Rhondda to a meeting in the chapel to welcome home from prison some of the local strikers. Horner's precepts of international class solidarity, the unity of the South Wales Miners' Federation, personal loyalty, and a warm humanity, became his own. Dai Francis worked at the coalface to the end of the 1930s. He contracted nystagmus and so became a surface worker until 1959. From the mid 1930s he had been attending National Council of Labour College classes in the evenings under the tutelage of Dai Dan Evans, a Marxist miners' leader from the adjacent Swansea valley.

The period was one of appalling social misery in the central steam coalfield to the east but one of relative security in the more prosperous anthracite pit whose leader began to exert a firmer grip on the SWMF with the establishment in 1934 of a rank and file executive council.

In 1936 Horner became the first communist president of the SWMF and in 1936, much influenced by the outbreak of the Spanish civil war, Dai Francis joined the Communist party. He remained a steadfast member for the rest of his life. He was the secretary of a most active Spanish aid committee whose broad community base in the village (everyone but the colliery manager contributed to the fund) served him as an ideal for rooted political action.

Arthur Horner and other leading figures were regular visitors to the home he established in Onllwyn after his marriage to Catherine in December 1936. That home based on deep mutual love and understanding was the secure base he needed through all the public st.. that lay ahead of him. .. became financial secretary .. his lodge in the late 19.. moved to chairman, and in .. was elected an executive cou.. member.

After the Second World .. the annual miners eisted.. and then the miners gala ser.. to focus the communal asp.. tions of the SWMF. For his .. vices to the miners eistedd.. he was made a member of .. Gorsedd of Bards of .. National Eisteddfod in 1.. taking the bardic name ".. o'r Onllwyn".

It was a considerable wre.. therefore to move to Cardif.. 1959 as chief administra.. officer of the NUM (So.. Wales Area). In 1963 he ap.. succeeded his old mentor D.. Evans as the general secret.. a post he held until his ret.. ment in 1976.

They were not easy years .. be at the helm. The accele.. ing rate of pit closures al.. with the declining numb.. status and wages of the min.. workforce led to much bit.. ness and recrimination agai.. the leadership; often he sha.. in this frustrated anger. Ne.. the less he argued that pit c.. ures were devisive by their v.. nature whereas only natio.. unity across Britain would m.. industrial action successf..

He was a leading spirit in .. formation of the Wales TUC .. which he became first chairm.. in 1974.

Dai Francis is survived by .. wife, Catherine, daught.. Nancy, and son Hywel.

COLONEL STEFAN MAYER

Colonel Stefan Antoni Mayer, head of the Polish military intelligence up till 1939, died in London on March 24 at the age of 85.

His achievement was not only to discover that the German Wehrmacht was using a mechanical ciphering and deciphering machine called Enigma but to succeed—with the help of his brilliant cryptologists — in breaking its cipher.

Stefan Mayer was born on September 25, 1895, at Rawa Ruska the son of a judge. On the eve of the First World War he was a student at the law faculty of the University of Lwów, in the Austrian part of Poland. As a member of a secret Polish military association he joined the Polish Legions that fought Tsarist Russia at the side of the Austro-Hungarian Army. In 1917, however, the legions refused to fight revolutionary Russia and those Poles who were Austrian citizens were grouped in a brigade under Colonel Józef Haller.

In February 1918, as a protest against the anti-Polish peace treaty signed at Brest-Litovsk by Germany and Austria with an Ukrainian puppet government, the Haller brigade which included the NCO Mayer broke through the front into the Ukrainian no man's land.

Haller's idea was to form an army corps including the units of Polish soldiers of the former Tsarist Army. At Kanev, on the Dnieper river, Haller fought on May 11 a successful battle with the Germans who had been trying to disarm his force.

As German reinforcements were being sent into Ukraine Haller dissolved his corps and left for France by the way of North Russia, then under British occupation. Mayer was one of the organizers of a Polish battalion at Archangel. When the British and allied troops evacuated North Russia in October 1919, Lieutenant Mayer was second in command of the Polish battalion. After a month's rest in Scotland the Polish "Murmanians" were greeted in Warsaw in December. They took part in the Polish campaign of 1920.

After the conclusion of the Polish-Soviet peace treaty of March 18, 1921, Mayer remained in the army. Having graduated in 1926 from the Higher Military Academy he was detailed to the Intelligence Service of the Second Department of the General Staff. In 1930 Major Mayer was appointed head of the IS. One of his main tasks was to supervise the progress of his cryptologists trying to solve Enigma's complex mechanism. By the end of 1937 the Poles mastered the reading of the intercepted German radio messages ciphered by Enigma.

On September 15, 1938, t.. Germans changed the Enigm.. mechanism by adding to it t.. fifth drum. This was consider.. by the Poles as a sign th.. war was on the horizon a.. Mayer ordered a new and cu.. bersome task of solving t.. internal connexions in d.. drums.

As the situation was beco.. ing alarming, General Wacła.. Stachiewicz, chief of t.. General Staff, decided th.. France and Great Britain mu.. be let into the Polish secret. .. meeting took place in Warsa.. from July 25 to 27, 1939. Fran.. was represented by Maj.. Gustave Bertrand, of th.. Service de Renseignements, an.. Great Britain by Commande.. Alastair Denniston, the crypt.. logist Alfred Dillwyn Knox an.. a rather mysterious "professo.. from Oxford".

Colonel Mayer told his guest.. that in case of a threat of wa.. the Enigma secret must be use.. as Poland's first contributio.. to the common cause. Accord.. ingly the French and the British received Polish-made replicas o.. the latest model of Enigma.

After the Nazi-Soviet occupa.. tion of Poland Mayer escape.. to France through Romania an.. later settled in England.

He was a kind man, modest and unboastful, and was loved by all who met him. He leaves his wife, Maria, a gifted painter, and a daughter.

MR DEWITT WALLACE

Mr DeWitt Wallace, founder of the Reader's Digest Association, who died on March 30, in New York, aged 91, was one of the most successful of editors and publishers.

The magazine that he founded with his wife, Lila, in 1922, stands as a testament to his belief in the individual. He was an intuitive editor with an uncanny flair for judging popular taste. The *Reader's Digest* became a massively successful and widely read magazine, with 40 editions, printed in 16 languages, with a monthly circulation of 18 million in the United States and 12 million abroad.

DeWitt Wallace was born on November 12, 1889, in St. Paul, Minnesota. His father, Dr James Wallace, was successively professor, dean and president of Macalester College, a liberal arts institution in St Paul. Wallace entered Macalester College in 1907. His interest in scholastic matters, never unduly high, had waned by the end of his second year and he sought distraction by reading widely in current publications, keeping a card index of what seemed to him the best articles.

Later, while recovering in France after being wounded in the Meuse-Argonne offensive in 1918, Wallace practised condensing articles from general interest magazines. In 1920 he assembled 31 of his condensations into a sample, pocket-sized magazine, and had several hundred copies printed. He wrote to teachers, nurses and other professional people, soliciting three-dollar subscriptions for 12 issues of the magazine, to be refunded if the first issue did not meet with approval.

In October, 1921, Wallace went to New York where he married Lila Bell Acheson, a Canadian-born social worker.

The response to Wallace's circulars was encouraging and together the Wallaces, working in a basement office in Greenwich Village, placed an order with a Pittsburgh printer for 5,000 copies of Volume One, Number One of *Reader's Digest*.

The magazine, launched in 1922, was well received.

A British edition was established in 1939, and quickly became the largest circulating monthly magazine in the British Isles. The following year, Wallace launched the first foreign-language edition of *Reader's Digest*. *Selecciones* was directed to a new readership in Latin America. A Portuguese-language edition, *Selecoes*, was published in 1942 for readers in Brazil, and by the following year reached Portugal. In 1943 *Det Basta* was introduced in Sweden.

Another milestone was reached in 1950, when Wallace agreed to the launching of Reader's Digest Condensed Books. Later the Digest under DeWitt Wallace's leadership developed a best-selling line of general books—full-length volumes on history, travel, gardening, cooking, art and home handicrafts.

What went wrong in Belgium, page 19

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

■ **Stock markets**
FT Index 528.1, up 9.3
FT Gilts 69.84, up 0.22

■ **Sterling**
$2.2445, up 110 cents
Index 100.1, down 0.5

■ **Dollar**
Index 99.8, down 0.7
DM 2.1055, down 78 pts

■ **Gold**
$507.50, down $15

■ **Money**
3-mth sterling 12⅔-12⅝
3-mth Euro $ 14⅞-14¾
6-mth Euro $ 14⅞-14¾

IN BRIEF

Judge may give ruling on Savoy meetings

A decision on whether Trusthouse Forte can call meetings of both classes of Savoy shareholders in an attempt to put its £58m takeover bid to the vote, will almost certainly be made by a judge.

The two sides are due to appear before the High Court Registrar on Friday, but are expected to argue that the decision, involving a ruling on Section 206 of the 1948 Companies Act should be made by a judge.

It is the first time a company has pursued this section as part of a Scheme of Arrangement, to gain control of another group.

Meanwhile, Savoy are working on a written submission to the Office of Fair Trading urging the Secretary of State to refer the bid to the Monopolies Commission.

Petrol price warning

British Petroleum says it would like to add another 4p to the price of a gallon of its BP and National petrol to recoup the losses being made on its refinery and marketing operations. Last week BP raised prices by 4p

Shipyard pay offer

Leaders of 70,000 shipyard workers are to recommend acceptance of a pay offer amounting to a 7.5 per cent increase. Skilled workers would get £7.50 a week more on basic pay and unskilled workers another £5.60.

Ansett loan undecided

The United States Export-Import Bank's board has postponed making a decision on a loan for $289m (£129.5m) to Ansett Airlines of Australia, a company controlled by Mr Rupert Murdoch, to be used for the purchase of Boeing aircraft. No public explanation was given.

BPC deal cleared

Mr Robert Maxwell's Pergamon Press has been given Department of Trade approval for the proposed acquisition of a controlling interest in BPC. Mr John Biffen, Trade Secretary said that the deal, which involves a £10m injection of new capital, will not be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Belgian franc aid

A three-point increase in the Belgian Bank Rate and announcement of European Monetary System support lifted the Belgian franc off its permitted floor against the Deutschemark. The Belgian franc also rose against the dollar.

Belgian crisis, page 19

French glass sale

BSN, the French food and glass conglomerate, is to sell four fifths of the capital of its Belgian and Dutch glass-making subsidiaries to the Asahi Company of Japan for around Fr 90m (£25.7m).

Wall Street higher

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 1,003.87, up 1.71 on Wall Street yesterday. The $-SDR exchange rate was .22852 whil ethe £-SDR was .547420.

Contracts finally placed for £270m nuclear reactors

By Nicholas Hirst
Energy Correspondent

Firm orders worth £270m for the main nuclear components of the British-designed advanced gas-cooled reactors to be built at Heysham in Lancashire and Torness in East Lothian were finally placed yesterday.

The bulk of the £200m of work on the steam boilers for the stations goes to Northern Engineering Industries, with sub-contracts for Babcock Power Engineering. Howden receives the £70m contract for gas circulators provide the reactor with essential cooling mechanism.

Placing of the contracts ends months of uncertainty and argument between the Central Electricity Generating Board and the partly Government-owned National Nuclear Corporation.

Agreement on working relationships between the CEGB, its sister authority, the South of Scotland Electricity Board and NNC was close in November, but contractual difficulties delayed the final placing of contracts.

Increasingly the manufacturers have been worried that delays over the final orders would hold up urgently-needed work from the shopfloor.

The Government has been keen to set up the NNC as the msin independent contractor for aH nuclear stations in Britain. Mr Denis Rooney, a senior director of BICC International, was last year appointed as its executive chairman and he was encouraged to reorganize what had been a complicated three-tier structure into a straighforward group run on normal company lines.

This was achieved, but difficulties arose over NNC's financial ability to take on the responsibility for placing the main contracts for the nuclear components of the two AGRs.

With a capitalization of only £10m legal worries developed over the relationship between the electricity authorities who were the customers, the NNC who would be main contractor for the nuclear components, and the manufacturers, who would prepare the equipment.

The CEGB pressed for the NNC to accept a role as its agent. NNC, however, was determined to retain full management responsibility.

It is understood a compromise has been reached which will not affect NNC's ability to gain full management responsibility for future stations.

The Government had intended that the NNC should have responsibility only for the nuclear components of the two AGRs, with civil engineering and the orders for the conventional turbogenerator plant being placed and controlled by the electricity authorities.

NNC, however, would take full control of the building of the whole of the first American—designed pressurized water reactor, which is expected to be ordered for a site in Sizewell, Suffolk, in 1983.

The placing of the component contracts yesterday means that a satisfactory agency arrangement has been agreed. All main contracts for the two stations have now been placed. NEI and GEC gained the turbogenerator contracts last year. Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons and Taylor Woodrow were given orders for the construction work at the same time.

Bank cautious on output prospects

By John Whitmore
Financial Correspondent

A further reduction in the pace of inflation remains the key to securing economic expansion over the longer term, says the Bank of England in the latest edition of its *Quarterly Bulletin*.

In an assessment of the economy that notably lacks the confident predictions of imminent recovery expressed by some Treasury ministers, the Bank takes an extremely cautious view of the prospects for improved output.

On the positive side, the bulletin does see some benefit accruing from a progressively slower rate of destocking this year. It says that a slowdown in the rate at which demand is met out of stocks would, as in previous cycles, lead to a recovery in output.

But the bulletin makes it clear that there is considerable uncertainty surrounding the prospects for total demand this year. In particular, it sees domestic investment, foreign trade and domestic consumption all tending to exercise a contractionary influence on the economy. However, it sees unemployment rising more slowly.

The bulletin is especially concerned about the continued decline in the United Kingdom's international competitiveness. It says that the substantial erosion of competitiveness in recent years is likely to have further delayed effects on both exports and imports.

It is essential, therefore, to lower the rate of domestic inflation still further. Although the pace of inflation has already moderated, the prospects for recovery would be much brighter if inflation was clearly below the international average.

The bulletin recognizes that Britain has a long way to go before it is ahead of its competitors in containing costs.

It also recognizes that the battle against inflation may have to be continued without the benefit of a rising exchange rate. This makes it even more essential to secure still greater moderation in pay demands.

The bulletin rejects the idea of a falling exchange rate as an easy way to restoring international competitiveness. The problem then would be to prevent any resulting gain in competitiveness from being eroded by a faster rise in costs.

One area in particular in which the bulletin takes a decidedly less sanguine view than that of Treasury ministers is in the behaviour of the savings ratio this year. Although the bulletin foresees some fall in the ratio, it does not see this fall as likely to be sufficient to offset the effects of tax increases on the level of consumer spending.

Commenting on the last Budget, the bulletin says that the effect of tax increases on activity will be offset in part by the stimulating effect of lower interest rates and possibly of a lower exchange rate.

It describes the PSBR projection as financially strict. It says that the thrust of the policy would be somewhat eased as a result of monetary steps, whose aim is to bring about a further reduction in the rate of inflation while holding out the prospect of lower interest rates.

Manufacturing decline, page 18

HOW LEADING SECTORS CONTRIBUTED TO INFLATION (As measured by the retail price index January 80-81)

Massey payments of $80m deferred

Massey-Ferguson's suppliers have agreed to provide the company with $80m in interim financing through payment deferrals.

The financially troubled company disclosed the agreement in its annual report, but did not elaborate except to say that it was "seeking additional interim financing from suppliers and others".

Referring to its long-awaited refinancing plan costing $730m, Massey said: "There are strong grounds for optimism that almost all negotiations on matters of substance can be concluded by the end of April." The closing would be held as soon as possible after that.

This would be a very difficult year but Massey expected a "progressive improvement during the remaining three quarters" and "a good year" in 1982.

In the first quarter which ended on January 31 Massey turned in a loss of $81.4m including a gain of $20.5m on foreign currency translation adjustments. The company said that it did not exnect to make a profit in fiscal 1981.

Banks delay Polish loan decision

By Michael Prest

International banks are reluctant to reschedule Poland's huge debt obligation or make new loans until a lead has been given by governments. This emerged in London yesterday as talks continued between Western banks and the Poles.

In the charged political and economic atmosphere of Poland's internal crisis the emphasis is on a comprehensive settlement involving both banks and governments.

Poland's total debt to the West of about $25,000m (£10,870m) is split nearly equally between loans by banks and by governments and their export credit agencies. Poland is due to repay $3,100m this year.

Yesterday's meeting in the City between representatives of 40 Western banks and the Bank Handlowy, Poland's foreign trade bank, looked at possible ways of refinancing these debts.

The talks are expected to continue today at Lloyds Bank. The Western banks have formed a task force of 20 banks not to negotiate but to coordinate information among the creditor banks in 12 countries.

A statement issued by Chase Manhattan, which has been coordinating activity so far, said: "The banks represented at today's meeting emphasized that although the situation is difficult, the possibility of a satisfactory solution can only be achieved through calm and restrained discussion taking place on a continuous basis."

Although today's meeting could produce the technical outline of a rescheduling agreement, a full decision cannot be made before April 8, when another meeting will be held. This meeting will coincide with the inter-governmental talks in Paris on Poland's request for a rescheduling of its $4,400m of official debts and $3,400m in export credits.

Under the new arrangements, liaison between the American banks, which are owed £575m this year, will be the responsibility of Bank of America and Citibank. Lloyds Bank International and Barclays Bank International are members of the task force.

Poland has no foreign currency with which to meet its obligations and bankers are wary of declaring the country in default.

Telecom to lose rights on PABXs

By Bill Johnstone

British Telecom is to lose its exclusive right to maintain all digital private automatic branch exchanges (PABXs). In a major policy switch, the Government announced yesterday it would allow the private sector to compete for the Telecom work.

The decision comes after growing opposition among Conservative backbenchers to the British Telecom monopoly.

The timing of the announcement may have been to diffuse the controversy which may arise in the Commons today when the Telecommunications Bill returns for its report stage.

Ever since last July when Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, outlined proposals for British Telecom, the Government has been under pressure to relax its monopoly. At that time it had decided to *allow British Telecom to maintain* all PABXs even if they were supplied by the private sector.

This angered private suppliers and Telecom customers, many of whom embarked on a campaign to reverse the decision.

The Government's compromise is to allow digital PABXs installed after the Telecommunications Bill becomes law to be maintained privately. Contractors will have to be approved to ensure their technical competence and their ability to offer a national service.

British Telecom will retain the right to review programmes for control software and to check equipment on its connexion to the network as well as during operation. Non-digital PABXs will remain the exclusive responsibility of British Telecom.

Plessey is to cut 425 of its 5,000 workforce. The job losses will be at Beeston, Nottinghamshire. *Other workers are expected* to be put on a shorter working week.

No Duport dividend 'before 1983'

By Philip Robinson

Duport, the troubled Midlands-based steel group which lost £15.5m in the year to last January, will not pay a final dividend and is unlikely to pay a dividend on ordinary shares much before 1983-84.

The details emerged in a 16-page shareholders' circular issued yesterday by the group outlining Duport's agreement to sell its steel interests to the British Steel Corpporation for £25m, restructure its debt and continue as a household furnishings company with special steels interests.

Duport, the first major private steel casualty of the recession, started in steel almost 30 years ago and developed those interests up until the end of 1979.

Its problems started at the beginning of 1980 with strikes at BSC plants which cost it £2.4m. Then demand fell to half the capacity, forcing the group to cut prices. High energy costs which for the year to January, 1981, increased by £2.8m aggravated its plight, according to the group.

Duport, whose work force is now down 57 per cent to 3,300, says it started 1980/81 with a modest debt equity ratio of 34 per cent. By the autumn losses were such that it had a net cash outflow of £1m a month. A pro-forma balance sheet without its major steel interests shows bank overdrafts and current loans rose from £8.1m in 1980 to an estimated £16.2m last year. Without steel, debts are shown at £9.3m.

The group says it has reached agreement with its bankers on facilities, and believes it has an acceptable prospect of recovery in due course. It is now left with 14 companies whose activities include casting, forgings, Slumberland beds, Grovewood Kitchens and Swish curtain rails.

In the current year to January 1982, Duport expects a pre-tax loss, but says the extent of it will be determined by a completion date with BSC, interest rates, and how soon surplus assets can be sold.

On completion of the BSC deal, £14.5m will be repaid to debenture stock, loan stock holders and Midland Bank, and the bank will then subscribe for £4.5m worth of equity, with £2m of the remaining lending converted into a medium-term loan and the balance left on overdraft.

Financial Editor, page 19

Steel losses 'will end next year'

By John Huxley

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of British Steel, predicted yesterday that the state-owned corporation would stop losing money next year. However, he added that present "bargain" prices would have to rise.

BSC lost almost £660m in the financial year which has just finished. Losses in the 1981-82 financial year should be kept to less than £320m, Mr MacGregor told a Commons Select Committee recently.

Speaking to the Foreign Press Association in London yesterday, he said British Steel should be out of the unprofitable period some time in the calendar year 1982.

Earlier, he admitted that the steel industry was looking over the edge of the precipice and saw nothing but disaster unless something was done to bring European capacity in line with market demand. Existing overcapacity coinciding with a declining market had brought about a collapse of prices.

Mr MacGregor said that in most European countries political considerations had prevented governments from taking decisions about steel capacity dictated by the market. "The result has been that the agony has been attenuated without being in any way diminished."

The European Commission had handed responsibility for reducing capacity to the producers themselves. Discussions on quota arrangements were difficult because of grievances over past arrangements, but some form of arrangement would be worked out.

"As a result, there will be a system which will contain steel production much more closely within the requirements of the market", Mr MacGregor said.

This would enable the industry to put up prices to more realistic levels. Buyers were getting steel at bargain prices.

Later today Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, will give evidence on the performance of British Steel to a Commons Select Committee.

Institutions answer the call from Ansafone

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke
Financial Editor

City institutions are backing the managers of Ansafone, the telephone answering equipment maker, in a new independent venture in the largest management "buy out" seen in Britain.

A total of £13.5m has been put up in the form of short and medium-term bank loans, loan stock, preference stock and equity to buy the company from Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corporation.

ACC had let it be known some time ago that it wished to sell Ansafone. Not only did it need to reduce debt after heavy losses on its film and record activities, but it also felt that Ansafone failed to fit in with its plans for the future.

The idea for the deal came from Mr James Sharman of Montagu Loebl Stanley, the *London stockbrokers*. Having identified Ansafone as a company likely to be for sale, he approached Mr Roger Brooke, the former managing director of EMI, who had set up Candover Investments as a venture capital arm of the Electra group of investment trusts.

Together they approached Mr John Evans and Mr Michael Smith, the top managers of Ansafone. According to Mr Brooke it had not until then occurred to the management that they might be able to raise the sort of sum ACC wanted for the company.

Ansafone made profits of £1.5m on sales of £11.5m in 1979/80, although profits have fallen to about £1m in 1980/81.

This is the fourth buy-out *deal arranged by Candover.* Mr Brooke said: "On the whole, very few company chairmen of large groups realize that a sale to the management of a subsidiary is a feasible alternative when they want to get rid of an ill-fitting business."

Most of the finance for the purchase of Ansafone is coming from National Westminster Bank which has agreed to take on its existing borrowings of £8m. A further £1 of medium-term bank lending has been provided.

The remaining £4.5m has come from the managers of Ansafone, who will hold an equity stake of below 15 per cent; Candover; clients of Montagu Loebl; and 13 City institutions.

These are Equity Capital for Industry, the largest, which is putting up some £900,000; Electra Investment Trust; County Bank; English Association Trust; Kleinwort Benson; Lloyds Bank; New Zealand Insurance; Norwich Union; *Sharp Unquoted Midland Investment Trust*, Sun Life Assurance; Thompson Clive Investments and Thompson Clive Growth Companies Fund.

The chairman of the new Ansafone Corporation will be Mr Frank Rogers, chairman of East Midlands Allied Press and a longstanding consultant to the board of Plessey.

Ansafone employs 700 people in Britain and its recent record has been good. There were, however, heavy losses a few years ago when it took large overseas fixed-price contracts for telephone answering equipment which turned out to be incompatible with the customers' systems.

Financial Editor, page 19

Barclays going ahead with United States loan issue venture

By Ronald Pullen

Barclays Bank confirmed yesterday that it is going ahead with its first public issue on the United States capital markets. Britain's largest clearing bank is hoping to raise $125m (£56m) through the issue of 25-year guaranteed capital notes.

The loan issue, which is being managed by Wall Street investment bankers Goldman Sachs, is expected to be made in late April or early May. The money will be used for the "development and expansion of the business of Barclays".

The bank has been steadily increasing its involvement in the United States banking and financial spheres in recent years and now controls assets of $9,000m in North America.

A feature of the move into the United States capital markets is likely to be the registration statement Barclays has had to file with the Securities and *Exchange Commission. This is* 100 pages long and, with statutory information about the bank's activities and recent trading performance, contains much financial information Barclays has not been prepared to disclose until now.

Lawyers have advised Barclays that it would be a criminal offence to distribute the document in full in the United Kingdom because it counts as a prospectus and is not registered in the United Kingdom. But some of the details are being communicated to shareholders through press advertisements.

Perhaps the most interesting new information relates to the fuller breakdown of profits by geographical area of operation and figures on the bank's interest margins and spreads.

But the registration statement still falls short of providing all the information United States banks disclose. There is, for example, no breakdown of the maturity structure of deposits. One description of the document yesterday was that it was *no more than a "constructive* compliance with the guidelines of the SEC".

Fluor to bid for 45pc of St Joe

Fluor has agreed to offer $60 (£27) a share cash for 45 per cent of St Joe Minerals' common stock and to follow this with a tax-free merger offer.

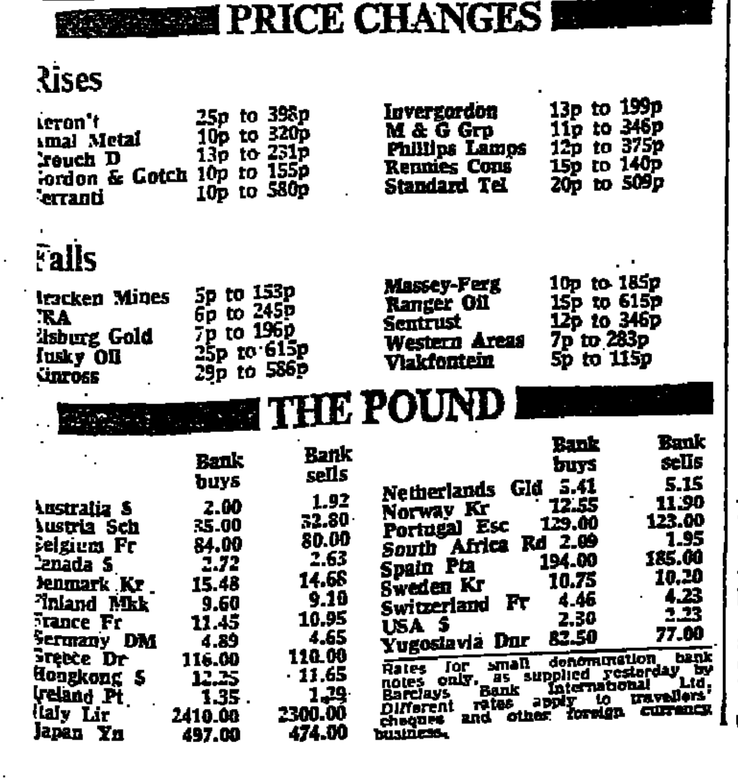
In the merger, 1.2 Fluor shares would be exchanged for each St Joe share remaining after the cash tender offer.

St Joe which is fighting a takeover bid from Seagram, said that the agreement with Fluor provided that Fluor would start its cash tender offer as soon as possible, but no later than April 6. Lehman Brothers Kuhn Loeb will be dealer manager.

Special meetings of stockholders of both companies would then be held to approve the merger and Special meetings of both boards would also be held on or before April 5, to approve the merger and authorize execution of a definitive agreement.

The agreement with Fluor has been submitted to the federal district court in New York in accordance with a temporary restraining order issued on March 25, in connection with litigation between St Joe and Seagram.

Seagram announced a conditional $45 a share offer for St Joe on March 11.



PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Aeron't	25p to 398p	Invergordon	13p to 199p
Amal Metal	10p to 320p	M & G Grp	11p to 346p
Crouch D	13p to 231p	Phillips Lamps	12p to 375p
Gordon & Gotch	10p to 155p	Rennies Cons	15p to 140p
Ferranti	10p to 580p	Standard Tel	20p to 509p

Falls

Bracken Mines	5p to 153p	Massey-Ferg	10p to 185p
CRA	6p to 245p	Ranger Oil	15p to 615p
Elsburg Gold	7p to 196p	Sentrust	12p to 346p
Husky Oil	25p to 615p	Western Areas	7p to 283p
Kinross	29p to 586p	Vlakfontein	5p to 115p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	2.00	1.92
Austria Sch	35.00	32.80
Belgium Fr	84.00	80.00
Canada $	2.72	2.63
Denmark Kr	15.48	14.68
Finland Mkk	9.60	9.10
France Fr	11.45	10.95
Germany DM	4.89	4.65
Greece Dr	116.00	110.00
Hongkong $	12.25	11.65
Ireland Pt	1.35	1.29
Italy Lir	2410.00	2300.00
Japan Yn	497.00	474.00
Netherlands Gld	5.41	5.15
Norway Kr	12.55	11.90
Portugal Esc	129.00	123.00
South Africa Rd	2.09	1.95
Spain Pta	194.00	185.00
Sweden Kr	10.75	10.20
Switzerland Fr	4.46	4.23
USA $	2.30	2.23
Yugoslavia Dnr	82.50	77.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Government helps innovators seeking venture capital

Chipmakers chase City funds

The Government is to collaborate with 16 leading City institutions in a scheme to find venture capital for innovators of microprocessor based products and processes.

The Microprocessor Applications Project Joint Appraisal Scheme was launched in London yesterday by Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, and is the latest move by the Department of Industry to increase awareness among businessmen of the potential of microprocessors.

It is estimated that about half the businesses in the United Kingdom are unaware of this potential.

The Microprocessor Applications Project has been providing 25 per cent of the costs of research and development of microprocessor schemes since 1978 and this grant will still be *available to any applicant after* the process being worked on has been approved.

Under the new joint appraisal scheme the Department of Industry will now be able to introduce the applicant to a number of institutions, for further funding.

Those taking part in the scheme are Barclays Bank, Brown Shipley Developments, Capital for Industry, Castle Finance, Charterhouse Development, Commercial Bank of Wales, County Bank, Hill Samuel & Co., Lazard Brothers & Co., Lloyds Bank, Midland Bank, National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), National Westminster Bank, Royal Bank of Scotland, Royal London Mutual Insurance Society, Technical Development Capital (TDC) and Industrial & Commercial Finance Corporation (ICFC).

Under the new scheme, the Department of Industry will carry out its usual procedure for technical appraisal and, with the applicant's agreement, will present a copy of the assessment to one of the funding institutions.

The MAP scheme was set up three years ago with a budget of £55m. So far £28m has been allocated to 450 projects out of 1,100 applications, and this year £20m is expected to be assigned to projects.

Although the initial sum may be exhausted by the end of this year, Mr Baker was confident yesterday that extra money would become available.

The Department of Industry intends to spend about £250,000 taking five coaches of a British Rail train filled with microelectric exhibits around the country to increase people's awareness of the technology. The train will leave Marylebone on May 6.

A report published last November by the Policy Studies Institute of London after an investigation into 90 companies in five different industrial areas covering domestic electrical appliances, heating and ventilating equipment, cars, testing equipment and toys and games was critical of the time the Department of Industry took to process the MAP applications.

It said: "Already for many companies the value of the grant is largely offset by the cost and the delay involved in getting it, and for some it is already more than offset, so they do not think it worth applying for it at all."

Bill Johnstone

Tokyo trade surplus is reduced

Japan's February overall balance of payments surplus was revised downwards to $656m (about £292m) from a preliminary $660m surplus, the finance ministry said.

February's current account deficit, revised, was $207m, up from a preliminary $60m deficit.

The revised February balance of payments surplus compared with a $46m January deficit and a $840 deficit a year earlier.

The revised current account deficit compared with a $2,880m January deficit and a $1,250m deficit a year earlier.

Chrysler repays $71m

Chrysler Corporation is to make a $71m (about £31m) payment to its lenders on Tuesday as scheduled. The car company said that its cash flow from sales of cars and trucks in the past few weeks had been more than adequate for it to make the first of four loan repayments.

Silver inquiry delay

A federal judge in Dallas has ordered a 10-day delay in the United States Government's investigation into the activities of Mr Nelson Bunker Hunt and his brother in the silver futures market.

Defence order

The French Defence Ministry said it plans to order 5,000 four-wheel-drive vehicles from Automobiles Citroën for delivery next year.

Libya lifts Malta ban

Libya is lifting its ban on some imports from Malta from today "in solidarity with the Maltese people on the occasion of the second anniversary of the evacuation of British forces from the island". The Libyans stopped importing Maltese goods after a dispute over offshore oil exploration rights on the Medina Bank.

Australian economy

The increasing strength of the Australian economy will lead to faster-than-expected growth in the fiscal year ending in June, now forecast at between 4 and 4.5 per cent against the 3.5 per cent given in the Budget last August.

Italy's jobless up

Italy's unemployment rose to 7.7 per cent in January from 7.6 per cent in October but was unchanged from a year earlier. There were 1,717,000 jobless out of a total workforce of 22.37 million.

£625m Krupp orders

Incoming orders in the Krupp World Group's plant-making sector totalled DM3,000m (£625m) in the first quarter of this year compared with DM2,300m in the corresponding 1980 period.

Steel imports restart

The Italian Government has ordered the reopening of customs clearance facilities for steel imports at eight ports, partially reversing measures taken last November to protect Italian producers against competition in the home market.

Metal workers strike

Finland's 150,000 metal workers have begun a two-day strike aimed at speeding up talks with employers on a new pay and conditions settlement.

GM to cut staff

General Motors of America is to cut its white-collar workforce by as many as 27,000 workers over the next few months, the second round of cuts in less than a year.

US building contracts

New United States building contracts were worth $10,400m in February, the same as in January but up 2 per cent from a year earlier.

French output

French production of private cars and light vans declined 21.7 per cent in February to 217,788 units from 278,007 in the same 1980 period, the French Auto Manufacturers Association said.

PERSONAL INCOME EXPENDITURE AND SAVINGS (Seasonally adjusted)

	Total personal income before tax	Savings as a percentage of personal disposable income (1)	Personal disposable income revalued at 1975 prices (2)
1978	142,539	12.7	76,016
1979	167,362	14.1	82,845
1980	186,939	15.3	84,647
1979 Q1	[illegible]	13.7	20,244
Q2	40,502	10.6	20,506
Q3	42,864	14.6	20,602
Q4	45,525	16.7	21,491
1980 Q1	46,732	[illegible]	20,980
Q2	49,103	15.2	20,936
Q3	50,954	17.1	[illegible]
Q4	52,151	16.4	[illegible]

(1) Equals total personal income before tax less taxes on income, national insurance etc contributions and transfers abroad.

(2) Personal disposable income revalued by the implied consumers' expenditure deflator (1975=100).

Three societies to discuss link-up as movement's trading problems grow

The Co-op feels the urge to merge

Mergers within the co-operative movement are growing at such a pace that by the end of May, when the Co-operative Congress, the movement's annual "parliament", meets in Edinburgh, the number of societies will have slid in 12 months from 191 to probably around 170. Another prospective merger—involving two north Suffolk societies—was announced yesterday and talks involving three others are expected this month.

Talks on April 15 concerning Royal Arsenal, South Suburban and Invicta, whose combined South-east trading area lies south of the Thames, could lead to the biggest merger since the London Co-operative Society joined the Manchester-based Co-operative Retail Services (CRS) earlier this year. The combined annual turnover of the three would be around £250m, creating the second largest retail organization in the movement next to CRS whose turnover since merging with the troubled London Society has risen to £800m a year.

London's merger with CRS, which started life as a rescue service for societies in difficulties and is now one of the most efficient organizations within the movement, was subsequently described as a turning point for the Co-operative movement by Mr Lloyd Wilkinson, general secretary of the Co-operative Union.

If the exploratory talks among the three South-east societies reach no conclusion, two of them might be forced to look to a CRS link. That was the prediction from Mr Robert Hammond, of the Union of Shop Distributive and Allied Workers (Usdaw).

He said: "We believe that they cannot continue to exist as feeble independent societies. That is why we are pressing for a fresh look at the concept of a South-east society." Eventually the only alternative for Royal Arsenal and South Suburban would be to join CRS.

The societies are also facing trading problems which have become typical of the Co-operative movement. Although the movement has had a 7 per cent share of the retail market, many in the movement would not be surprised if annual returns show some erosion of market share after the intense competition from the private sector multiples' drive into superstores.

Royal Arsenal has had two years of trading losses which have probably continued in the past 12 months but loans—covered at least twice over by conservatively-valued fixed assets—are only a third as large as those that were being carried by the London Society. In 1979 Royal Arsenal had a £1.6m loss compared with the £2m loss at the London Society.

Royal Arsenal says that, after the closure of 41 uneconomic outlets last year, its closure programme is ended. South Suburban is still going through a rationalization programme.

The three have moved some way towards more economical shared operations with a Kent federation that has rationalized baking, milk and laundry activities.

Big is not necessarily proving best within the movement. But smaller societies, some particularly efficient, are also being driven to mergers to improve their chances of developing new stores.

This is the rationale behind merger talks now started between the Lowestoft Co-operative Society and Beccles Co-operative Society in north Suffolk.

Derek Harris

SOCIETY PERFORMANCE COMPARED

	Total £m	Turnover increase on 1978	1979 Net surplus (profit) as % of sales
National average		12.8	1.8
London	227.5	7.3	−0.9
North Eastern	153.6	11.1	1.1
Royal Arsenal	151	8.8	−1.1
Birmingham	105	7.5	0.1
Greater Lancastria	86	5.8	0.6
North Midland	76.7	14.5	4
Norwest	75.8	14.1	1.3
South Suburban	50.2	7.8	0.2
Invicta	40	9.1	1.7

Source: Cooperative Statistics

Sir Peter Carey: Japanese "tend to look inwards".

Japan 'needs to change' international trade view

By John Huxley

Japan must be prepared to adopt a "more internationally responsible" attitude towards trade. Sir Peter Carey, Permanent Secretary at the Department of Industry, said yesterday.

He told businessmen in London that because of Japan's history and geography, there was a tendency on the part of the Tokyo authorities to look inwards and seek a solution to problems on a national rather than international basis.

For this reason Japan was "not a natural member of the international trading community, even though she exports as much as she does."

Speaking to a conference organized by the Industrial Society, Sir Peter said that various aspects of Japanese trading policy were causing concern. He singled out her industry's concentration on a limited number of sectors, such as cars, consumer electronics and cameras, and her non-tariff barriers against the import of Western goods and services.

"I think we have got to exercise pressure on Japan to be more internationally responsible", Sir Peter said.

Sir Peter was anxious to dispel the myth of "the Japanese miracle", the title of the conference. There was nothing miraculous about Japan's recent industrial history, he said.

"We should not allow ourselves to become mesmerized by their success. Much of it is due to the fact that Japan has been extremely effective at doing the things all countries have set out to do."

Debenhams reduces overseas buying to save British names

By Beryl Downing

The Debenham group is cutting its buying from abroad by 40 per cent this year in an attempt to "stop the erosion of a number of major British brand names".

The travel budget for the buyers from its 69 stores is to be halved as the group tries to meet new buying targets with 200 British suppliers.

An extra £100m will be added to the £300m retail value of British goods bought by the group last year creating, according to the company economist's estimate, 20,000 jobs in factories throughout the country.

The scheme began last year when a British merchandise development committee was formed by Mr Eric Crabtree, deputy chairman of Debenhams. The committee met 15 leading British conglomerates, covering around 40 per cent of the company's suppliers. A further list of 100 individual manufacturing companies was added to the first group later. The committee visited mills and factories and began to develop specially coordinated ranges, bringing together carpet and wallpaper manufacturers, potteries and fabric producers, all working to a specific brief.

"In many cases mills have been too far removed from the ultimate retail sale", Miss Helen Robinson, group stylist and deputy chairman of the committee, said. "We have to admit that our manufacturers have not always kept up with foreign competition on design and we have tried to bring them one step nearer the customer, which also means they will be poised for better export sales."

The group is at pains to point out that this is not "short-term flag-waving", but a permanent feature of its buying policy, a "planned development which will take us through the 1980s".

The average store group devotes 75 per cent of its buying power to British goods. In Debenhams' case this will be increased to 90 per cent.

Training levy move fails

By Patricia Tisdall

An attempt to extend the scope of those industrial training boards which remain after the Government's review was defeated by the parliamentary committee examining the Employment and Training Bill yesterday.

An Opposition amendment supported by building employers would have enabled local authorities and similar organizations to be subject to the same levy payments as private employers.

The National Federation of Building Trades Employers is among the organizations petitioning for the change. The construction industry complains that many employees trained under the Construction Industry Training Board are "poached" by the public works departments of local authorities.

Speaking against the amendment, Mr David Waddington, Under Secretary of State for Employment, pointed out that departments there use voluntary local government training board and that "a sizable chunk" of the 45 per cent of employment uses voluntary measures by choice rather than because of any absence of legal power to set up a board.

Call for 'radical' changes in chemicals industry

By Our Industrial Staff

Radically different processes must be developed by chemicals manufacturers if they are to achieve profitable growth during the 1980s, an industry leader said yesterday.

Mr William Duncan, deputy chairman of Imperial Chemical Industries and president of the Society of Chemical Industry, said there was an urgent need "to reduce capital costs, partly to reduce the costs of production, but even more to enable us to make the most of the limited funds available for investment".

Speaking at the society's centenary conference in Cambridge, he emphasized that significant change could come only from radical new chemistry, not from modifications of processes. New processes had to be developed for the next round of large-scale investment in 1985 to 1990.

Last year, output from the United Kingdom chemicals industry fell by more than 8 per cent, and a further small decline is expected this year. Investment plans have been scaled down, and few chemicals companies have made money over the past three quarterly periods.

Some of these problems are associated with the recession and the loss of industrial customers, especially in the motor car and textile industries, but the industry has longer-term fears. Some of these were highlighted by Mr Duncan.

He said that Third World countries would become important markets but would also develop significant chemical industries of their own.

"If the industrialized nations are to reap the maximum benefit from the growth in world trade they will need to export a large proportion of highly-added-value chemicals.

"Value not volume must be the priority if we are to generate profitable export sales."

Mr Duncan pointed to the shift in the production of basic chemicals to the energy-rich countries, "particularly in the Middle East, but also to countries in Western Europe with good indigenous carbon sources, provided that their governments ensure that the economic climate is sufficiently encouraging".

Bank report underlines long-term trend in manufacturing decline

By John Whitmore

Sterling M3, the broad measure of money, rose by about 17½ per cent in the year to February, according to the Sterling M3, the broad measure. Bank of England's latest *Quarterly Bulletin* after allowing for distortions caused by the ending of the "corset" last June.

The growth in M3 which includes United Kingdom residents' foreign currency deposits was rather higher, but growth in notes and coins in circulation, the largest component of the monetary mbase, was only 6½ per cent.

The current account surplus on the balance of payments has had only a modest expansionary influence on sterling M3 since last June. The Bank estimates that in the eight months from June to February a current account surplus of £4,320m had a net (direct) expansionary effect on sterling M3 of £720m.

Lower PSBR

The public sector borrowing requirement is expected to be 4½ per cent of gross domestic product in 1981/82, compared with 6 per cent in 1980/81 and 10 per cent in the mid-1970s. The public sector financial deficit, which treats government finances on an accruals rather than a cash receipts basis, and also excludes most purely financial transactions, is expected to fall to 2½ per cent of g.d.p. in 1981/82, against 3½ per cent in 1980/81 and 7½ per cent in 1975.

The sharp fall in manufacturing output last year (15 per cent) accelerated a long-term trend in which manufacturing has been a declining proportion of total output. Whereas manufacturing represented 34 per cent of output in 1965, last year its share was probably under 25 per cent.

The pattern of demand may be changing. Stocks need not increase to contribute to the growth of output: a smaller decline is sufficient. But to the extent that the change in stockbuilding raises imports, there will be no net benefit.

Fixed investment may fall more sharply in 1981, the fall amounting to 1-1½ per cent of g.d.p. and consumption may also prove contractionary with the savings ratio not falling sufficiently to counter the impact of higher real levels of taxation. The overall effect of changes in the trade balance, which increased g.d.p. by 1½ per cent in 1980, may diminish domestic output in 1981.

Excluding North Sea operations, the real return of United Kingdom companies declined to 2 per cent in March-September, 1980. Income gearing at 45 per cent was higher than the previous peak in 1974, but "real" capital gearing was significantly lower at less than 11 per cent.

Monetary base

The stance of monetary policy should be eased somewhat by the monetary steps announced in the Budget. But economic expansion depends on improvements in competitiveness and the pace of inflation needs to be reduced further.

No decision has been taken to introduce monetary base control, which would be an important change of policy, but current modifications in monetary control techniques would be consistent with a gradual evolution in that direction.

Investment

In its Financial Review the *Bulletin* notes a rise in the oil exporters' current account balance from $66,000m in 1979 to $105,000m in 1980. Of an estimated $77,000m available for investment in the first nine months, the Bank identifies investments of $71,000m and says that the proportion of this latter figure placed in the United Kingdom and the United States fell to 37 per cent.

An article looking at the behaviour of commodity prices in the 1970s concludes that prices have become much more sensitive to short-run changes in world industrial activity. This volatility may make it more difficult to bring inflation under control in the 1980s.

An examination of the corporate bond market suggests that some companies might be ready to return to the market on the basis of 12 per cent yields. A reopening of the market could help the process of monetary control.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

New approach to rail timetables

From Mr Robert Foster

Sir, You devote considerable attention today to British Rail, with an editorial, an article and a letter in the Business News. Not once is there any mention of the word "time-table", the seedcorn of any passenger railway. Yet time-table planning techniques (and results), unless one is travelling to/from London, frequently leave much to be desired, with the result that trains are often very difficult to get around on.

There is no doubt that the investment funds hoped for by BR will regenerate the system (except that the proposed cross-London tunnel route would both be poor value for money and create numerous operating difficulties). A new and overall approach to time-tabling, however, would benefit BR and the travelling public enormously, while costing almost nothing.

Your diarist reported (August 12, 1980) a BR spokesman as saying that it was looking at the much more modern Swiss (and German) time-tabling methods. This spokesman was in fact out of date as the initiative had by then been abandoned (except on the Scottish Region). The initiative should be resumed at the earliest possible time.

Both today's editorial, and your transport correspondent Michael Baily when writing some months ago, recognize the industry's overmanning, and the editor of *Railway Gazette International* draws the attention of your readers from time to time to some of the worst instances. Sir Peter Parker is likewise aware, and recently commented "productivity is the rock upon which we build". How was it then, that BR in one of its recent serial advertisements, accused those who criticize its overmanning, of being wrong? Sadly they are right.

The letter from Mr Anthony Smallhorn, a consulting engineer, discusses the advanced passenger train (APT) from an engineering rather than a commercial or operating standpoint. His comparison with Concorde, an engineering masterpiece but a white elephant financially, is unfortunate yet apt.

The ability to get the APT tilting mechanism right has already eluded BR engineers for a decade, and the train is not now expected to enter service until 1984. Even if APT does see the light of day, and supposing further that it is reliable in service, it will have a number of drawbacks. The principal one is that it is a fixed formation train: therefore the amount of coaches cannot be varied according to demand, a fault on one vehicle paralyses the whole train, the train cannot be split to serve two destinations, and it cannot run off the electrified system.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT H. FOSTER,
3 High Street,
Skipton, North Yorkshire.

From Mr R. G. R. Calvert

Sir, The over-concentration of resources on the high speed train and the advanced passenger train has had a disastrous effect. There are spectacular services on a lines in contrast to indiffere and mediocrity elsewhere.

If we take, for example, important group of pl Leicester, Derby, Notting and Sheffield: the inter rail services between them no faster, and in most c slower, than in 1938. F Sheffield to Manchester Liverpool the time on jou is substantially slower before 1914. That some of more direct routes betw cities are no longer avail is hardly likely to impress business man as a valid ex

Tilt trains, after the ma of APT, have already tried, with little success both North America Europe (Italy, Sweden Switzerland). Mr Small (March 26) compares AP Concorde, a brilliant piec engineering that nobody w to buy.

It would be better to centrate available resource trying to lift the system whole out of the medio into which it has sunk. At same time serious efforts be made to improve pro tivity and to market avai services. Only when BR's tr is seen to increase, and b use is being made of avai assets, should finance be j fied for new high speed (as in France, West Gern and Italy), or for serious alignment of existing route

Yours faithfully,
R. G. R. CALVERT,
45 Woodwaye,
Oxhey,
Watford WD1 4NN.

Performance of ICI

From Sir Cyril Pickard

Sir, I note from the 1980 annual report of ICI, which I received this morning, that 10 directors and 130 employees received more than the permanent secretary to the Treasury in 1980; and another 115 received as much as a departmental permanent secretary (£31,000). The chairman was paid £134,853, a modest increase of 8½ per cent. Pensions and gratuities to former directors amount to £2,630,000.

Since the reductions in the top bands of income tax in the 1979 Budget, justified as a necessary incentive to management, take home pay is no longer shown in the accounts. I calculate, however, that the take home pay of the highest paid has nearly doubled.

Profit before tax in 1980 fell by 54 per cent and the number of people employed by the company declined. What would have happened to profits and employment without these incentives to management?

C. S. PICKARD,
37A Brodrick Road,
London SW17.

The Roman connexion

From Mr A. Raymond

Sir, I have just read the second report from the Transport Committee of the House of Commons on the Channel link, which was published last month.

Unlike any other publication from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, the page numbering of the main text is in Roman numerals. Why is this? Could it be because Gaius Julius Caesar was the first continental who established the need for a fixed link between Gaul and Britain?

Yours faithfully,
A. RAYMOND,
Parlor's Hall,
Mill Street,
Low Town,
Bridgnorth,

HMSO prices

From Mr R. H. McCall

Sir, The correspondence HMSO charges has prod evidence of surprising incre but has not answered my c tion as to parliamen scrutiny and control. If 33p a page for an Act of Pa ment cited by Mr M. (March 26) or the 13.5p a cited by Dr Thomas (March are applied to a reprintin the Local Government 1972, likely to be needed many years, that Act woul the same basis cost either or £58. The implications quite startling.

Omnis praesumitur lc cognoscere becomes incr ingly unfair in the contex lengthy and complex leg tion at publication costs charges which seem out of trol.

Yours faithfully,
R. H. McCALL,
The Hospice,
St Giles Hill,
Winchester.
March 27.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Aid for the ACC balance-sheet

Since disclosing substantial losses on film production and distribution and in its records business in December, Lord Grade's Associated Communications Corporation has been wrestling with the balance sheet which at last sight was showing gearing of nearly 100 per cent.

It stopped all new film production after it became clear that the high-budget production *Raise the Titanic* was a financial flop; introduced tight cash controls and indicated that its Ansafone, telephone answering business, was for sale at the right price.

A purchaser has emerged in the form of an institution-backed management buy-out in the nick of time so far as the 1980/81 balance sheet is concerned. The £13½m which ACC receives in cash comes in on the day that it closed its books on the year.

This will help but it will not solve ACC's problems at March 1980 net borrowings were over £70m and no-one suggests that the situation has improved since then.

News that President Reagan was on the road to recovery made for a quieter day on European foreign exchange markets yesterday after the overnight confusion in the United States. The dollar was easier, partly on slightly softer Eurodollar rates, but the Deutschemark was a clear beneficiary of the easing of tension in Poland. Meanwhile, it remains to be seen how long a breathing space the Belgians have been able to buy for their currency by hoisting their Bank Rate by three points to 16 per cent.

But Ansafone's sale may mark the turn of the tide. ACC has two important films coming onto the circuits shortly, *The Lone Ranger* and *The Great Muppet Caper*. It expects both to do well.

Meanwhile, following the IBA's decision that ATV must shed 49 per cent of its Midlands franchise to local investors, there is another looming problem in that new East Midland studios demanded by the IBA, must be financed.

The idea apparently is that a new company will be formed to fund this, so it will be off-balance sheet borrowing for ACC.

Thus, while still smarting from the difficulties caused by the flamboyant move into film production, ACC is facing up to the realities of present conditions. What that means for shareholders should be come clear when final results are published, but the shares at 47p are taking no chances following ACC's interim dividend cut.

Booker McConnell

Engineering profits collapse

The £10m collapse in Booker McConnell's profits to £15.2m is mainly due to two factors familiar to British companies: high interest rates and the engineering slump.

Mr Michael Caine, chairman of Booker McConnell.

Interest charges soared from £3.79m to £9.56m, reflecting not so much higher rates as the much greater demand during the year for working capital, necessitated in part by absorbing Kearley & Tonge and Warriner & Mason. Net borrowings of £28m are almost the same as last year, but in the course of the trading year they reached twice that much.

Interest rates may be outside the company's control, but it does admit to making mistakes in the engineering divison where the turnround was stark. From profits of £5.9m to losses of £1.3m in fact. The trouble seems to be the American companies, but the long-term future of Fletcher and Stewart in Britain looks poor without more turnkey sugar contracts and Fletcher Sutcliffe Wild is beginning to suffer from the cutbacks in National Coal Board spending. At best, then, Booker can only eliminate engineering losses this year.

International trading, now a less important part of the group, lost revenue because of nationalization of the Zambian retailing interests, and profits fell by 32 per cent to £900,000. Other divisions did well, however, with spirits and liqueurs particularly showing the benefit of raising the stake in United Rum Merchants to 100 per cent. Agriculture was up 30 per cent to £1.3m, gaining from the fast growing demand for white meat.

Even if the engineering losses can be eliminated—a tall order which may entail further redundancies—the other divisions are not big enough to pull Booker back to the 1979 profits level. Only food distribution, on which much hope is pinned, can do that, simply because acquisitions have increased the profit potential. If food goes well Booker could make £20m this year. In maintaining the dividend to give 4.46p gross, yielding 7.2 at last night's 62p, down 1p, the directors have allowed themselves flexibility.

Cape Industries

A demonstration of confidence

Shares in most groups to do with building soared away months ago, but those in Cape Industries have not. It has a lingering, if dwindling association with asbestos; it is deep in automotive engineering; and last October it made a £9.2m cash call in the ratio of one-for-four at 157p with the existing shares at 195p.

The money was to help pay for the insulating materials business of Turner & Newall which cost £13m, and the issue was possible because Cape is still two-thirds owned by Charter Consolidated, now emerging as a cash-rich industrial holding group with little in the way of mining since it sold its Selection Trust shares to BP.

Quite what Chartered intends for itself, let alone for Cape remains obscure, but for the moment it seems content to let Cape digest Newall Insulation, and then buy a sizable company in several months' time. Chartered could be prepared to see its Cape stake fall to 51 per cent over the years which should make for a freer market.

Meanwhile pretax profits last year plunged from £12.5m to £6.7m. The automotive division went from profits before interest and tax of £1.2m to losses of £3.38m, and with 1979's mining contribution absent, building and insulation had to hold the line. Here, profits rose from £12.01m to £12.83m.

The decision to keep the dividend is said to be a sign of confidence, which is as well because its cost of £3.1m compared with £5.3m of net profits before extraordinary (reorganization and closure) items of £5.9m, and actual losses in current account terms. Automotive destocking has stopped, and streamlining should eliminate last year's losses.

Last year, interest charges rose from £2.0m to £2.6m thanks to the Newall acquisition, and heavy capital spending, but the trend should be better this year. *The shares* slipped 4p to 212p yesterday where they yield 7.5 per cent.

Duport

A close run thing

Duport can only have been a heartbeat away from death to judge from the circular to shareholders detailing its financial predicament following the run-down of its steel activities and sale of part of the division to the British Steel Corporation.

As it is the circular only deals with the first stage of the group's recovery, the debt reconstruction part, and there still remains the difficult problem of a capital reconstruction to eliminate the thumping £13.4m deficit on reserves that can be distributed which the board says will preclude any dividend being available until 1983-84.

Not surprisingly, it is the group's bankers who emerge with the whip hand following the debt reconstruction. In return for repaying £14½m of highly restrictive loan capital, the banks are getting £2.5m of preference shares, where the conversion and participation rights will be maintained after the proposed capital reconstruction, and £2m of convertible loan stock.

In any event, the pro-forma balance sheet, showing gearing of over 70 per cent even after the BSC payment and net worth down from £67.2m to £15.2m, along with continuing losses in the current year after losses in the year to last January of £15½m suggests that it is going to be a long struggle but the £6m capitalization at the suspension price of 12p is probably a reasonable value for the continuing businesses.

Peter Norman

What went wrong in Belgium

Mr Wilfried Martens (right), the Prime Minister, failed to win the agreement of his Socialist coalition partners to tough economic measures aimed at supporting the franc

Brussels

Mr Wilfried Martens' fourth coalition government gave up yesterday in the face of a good old fashioned speculative run on the Belgian franc.

The Belgian prime minister trod the by now well worn path to the king's palace to offer his resignation because his coalition of French and Flemish speaking Christian and Socialist parties were unable to agree on the sweeping policies he had proposed to avoid a devaluation of the nation's currency. The resignation was not immediately accepted and the king will today continue his consultations in an effort to resolve the crisis.

Mr Marten's cabinet spent until four o'clock on Monday morning—eight hours in all—discussing his proposals. These were the suspension until next January of Belgium's system of index-linking incomes to inflation and the cutting of petrol, tobacco and alcohol out of a new cost of living basket to be used for indexation from the beginning of next year. Despite further talks yesterday the prime minister failed to win over his Socialist coalition partners.

It was left to the national bank to step into the political vacuum created by the crisis in the government. It pushed up bank rate by a swingeing three percentage points to 16 per cent to give the franc some relief from the hammering it has received over the past week on the foreign exchange markets.

For this latest of the many government crises to hit Belgium was precipitated by a massive haemorrhage of the country's foreign exchange reserves as the national bank fought last week to keep the franc above its international floor levels against other currencies in the European Monetary System.

On Thursday and Friday of last week the bank had to spend 22,000m francs worth of foreign exchange reserves to keep the franc in the system. This massive intervention—equivalent to £285m—reflected a rapid increase in speculation against the Belgian currency and brought the bank's loss of reserves to 57,000m francs since the beginning of March and 96,000m since January 1.

The run on the franc was a damning international thumbs down for a government which was set up only five and a half months beforehand specifically to tackle Belgium's economic problems.

The difficulties that have upset Mr Martens' fourth government are only partly his fault. The recession in Belgium is, as everywhere else in Europe, proving to be deeper and longer than people expected. But he has tended to prevaricate and he has frittered away a large part of the goodwill which would probably have ensured acceptance for radical changes at the very beginning of his administration.

By the time Mr Martens decided to offer his resignation he had become too timid for the foreign exchange markets and too bold for the socialist members of his cabinet. In proposing a temporary suspension and eventual rejigging of the Belgian system of indexing wages and other income to the rise in the cost of living he attacked one of the Belgian socialist movement's most sacred cows.

Belgium has the most comprehensive system of indexation of any country in Western Europe. Wages, salaries, rents and unemployment payments all rise in line with inflation. Advocates of the system argue that it has helped to guarantee social peace in a country where unemployment seems now firmly established above 10 per cent of the working population and where factory closures are an almost daily occurrence.

But the index system has ensured that Belgium stays at or near the top of the world league table for wage costs per unit of production, while at the same time depriving the government of any freedom to determine the exchange rate of the franc.

The embattled defence of the nation's currency is not a replay in miniature of Britain's stubborn refusal to devalue sterling in the 1960s. The formulators of Belgian monetary policy know that any devaluation is bound to feed inflation.

Apart from Luxembourg, Belgium has the highest dependence on foreign trade of any EEC member state. A devaluation of the franc would inevitably raise the price of imported goods. As imports are equivalent to about half of gross national product the cost of living index would be pushed upwards. Indexation would then trigger corresponding increases in wages, salaries and other charges.

In short, a devaluation, unless very modest or skilfully managed, could set off a vicious circle of rising wages and spiralling prices.

Previous Belgian devaluations in the context of the European monetary system and its predecessor, the European currency "snake", were modest affairs and controlled without too serious an impact on domestic inflation. But during 1980 Belgium's balance of payments and internal budgetary positions deteriorated markedly, so that market operators are no longer looking for a devaluation of 2 or 3 per cent but one of 10, 12 or even 15.

Two deficits have dogged the Belgian government's efforts to put its economic house in order. That in the current account balance of payments rose to nearly 200,000m francs last year and is likely to worsen further in 1981. A week ago, the government announced 30,000m francs worth of spending cuts in an attempt to keep the country's deficit on currency budgetary operations down to 150,000m francs this year.

The foreign exchange markets were not impressed. Over the first two months of this year Belgium's overall government debt jumped by no less than 121,000m francs to 2,078,000m. This huge load of debt—equivalent to £2,690 for every man, woman and child in the country—is the highest per caput debt of any western nation.

Expressed in percentages of gross national product, Belgium will have the highest current account balance of payments deficit and the biggest net public sector borrowing requirement of all EEC member states except Ireland this year.

The fourth Martens' government relied on a policy of budget cuts and wage restraint to tackle the country's economic problems after taking office last October. It has been strong on promises but, as the galloping state debt shows, short on results.

It has tended to attribute far greater stringency to its policies than has actually been the case. At times its reactions have seemed perverse. Mr Martens and his cabinet battled for weeks to push a statutory incomes package through parliament only to withdraw the initiative in February and accept a weaker voluntary pact between employers and unions.

As time progressed, the government cut an ever sorrier figure. Cabinet meetings were set aside to decide budget cuts, but decisions were then postponed. Emergency cabinet meetings at the weekend became almost routine.

Sunday's exercise, when the cabinet met fruitlessly until almost dawn on Monday, appears in retrospect to have been inevitable given the geometrical progression of prevarication in the face of Belgium's economic problems.

Whatever happens, last week's message from the financial markets was that Belgium must take radical measures to tackle its problems. Mr Martens' answer was to try to cut the Gordian knot of indexation. He failed, but in failing put the issue fully into the centre of Belgian politics.

Opening Whitehall's files to the public

Consumer groups want greater access to information gathered at the public's expense. Robin Young discusses areas likely to attract special interest

Public access to official information will be one of the main topics of discussion at the National Consumer Congress in Swansea this weekend.

Consumerist claim that information gathered at public expense for the use of public servants should be available to the public itself. Though their target is the files of public authorities, there are important implications for the private sector, too, if only because the Government and its agencies hold a lot of information about private business.

Some is already published; some is available to diligent researchers who know exactly where to look for it; and much is restricted, confidential or officially secret.

Those who claim that there are practical benefits in making records available to the public point to America. An early test case when the American Freedom of Information Act passed was a demand by the Consumers' Union to see the reports of tests which the Veterans' Administration (a government body concerned with ex-servicemen's affairs) had carried out on hearing aids. The Consumers' Union succeeded in its claim that it should have access to the information when preparing its own report on hearing aids for the public.

The American Act has already been exploited on a number of occasions to the embarrassment of British industry. American public health inspection reports published in 1977 claimed that there were insanitary conditions in some of Cunard's cruise liners. Some unpleasant details about meat processing plants in Scotland came to light when the American authorities withdrew their licences to export to the United States

The American General Services Administration is obliged to release all the information it gathers when testing goods and equipment for public purchase. It is as if the Consumers' Association in Britain could ask what made government buyers prefer one manufacturer's stacking chairs to another—and get the answer. The Naafi might similarly have to account for its taste in instant coffee and so on.

Could it then happen here? Certainly, there is a lot of important information in government keeping which consumer organizations and pressure groups, not to mention newspapers, would love to get their hands on.

A favourite target would be the Ministry of Agriculture's files on food additives. At present it is necessary to scour learned journals and World Health Organization reports to find what little information there is on British research into the subject. In America, by contrast, anyone interested can see all the details of the Food and Drug Administration's laboratory tests.

Information on cigarettes would also be a prime goal of researchers. The Department of Health and Social Security has (but does not publish) figures for the carbon monoxide yield of all the cigarette brands sold in Britain. Carbon monoxide is thought to increase the risk of heart disease and to affect unborn babies. Yields are regularly published in Sweden and Canada and readily available in the United States, but in Britain if you want to know you must analyse the cigarettes yourself.

Pressure could also be expected from those interested in cars. Researchers would be particularly keen to examine two sets of files—first, those on MoT testing stations and secondly the dossiers on the recall of cars.

Every year the Department of Transport deletes 400 MoT testing stations from its list. It could be because the garage in question does *not* want to continue with the work or it could be because of fraud or incompetence.

Car owners who have their cars serviced there would have an obvious interest in knowing which reason applied. At present the information is withheld.

As for the recalling of cars by manufacturers to correct faults, many consumerists are concerned that the Department of Transport can never tell an intending second-hand car purchaser whether the vehicle has been the subject of such a recall and whether it has been properly attended to. The availability of the information depends on the manufacturers.

Also, under the present voluntary code of practice, the initiation of car recall campaigns depends on manufacturers, too, though there is a plain division of interest between the desire to avoid accidents and the wish to protect the reputation of the product. In some cases it would be possible to learn more about the safety defects in British cars by looking at the information available about export models in America than by relying on the little that is revealed in Britain.

Should there be any restriction on the public's access to this sort of information? Freedom of information campaigners insist that there should, of course, always, be exemptions where legitimate commercial confidentiality is concerned. The trouble is that commercial confidentiality is at present almost invariably defined by those who have vested interests. There is no countervailing test of legitimate public interest.

The idea that uncomfortable disclosures might legitimately be in the public interest hardly exists in English law as yet. The recent case involving Granada television and British Steel illustrated the point afresh.

Commercial confidentiality would no doubt be the subject of much litigation if freedom on information did come to Britain. That has been the experience in America. But the threat of public exposure, which is the only ultimate guarantee that anyone will behave themselves—whether they are a public authority, big business concern or private individual—will become much more real if the freedom of information campaigners get their way.

Business Diary: Hot-foot to the BSI • Brewers over a barrel?

If I were dreaming up an April Fools' Day joke story I would find it hard to better the real-life tale of Gordon Green and the thermal sock. Green is managing director of Leabrooks Hosiery, based at Riddings, Derbyshire, part of the Charles Hall Group, "the largest independent socks manufacturer in the United Kingdom".

He wants Robert Fielden, director general of the British Standards Institution, to come up with a British Standard for thermal—that is, air-retaining—socks in order to protect firms such as his own. These are being undercut by what he sees as inferior products, which are normally exported but—thanks to the strong pound—are being dumped here.

And now to Manchester, and the BSI's textiles unit, where a spokesman for Fielden told me yesterday that the only thermal standard they had for anything approaching a garment is BS 5615—for the jackets on domestic hot water cylinders.

There is also BS 4745, for testing the thermal resistance of textiles. But as for socks, that, BSI says, must await a formal approach from Green and others of like mind.

Green's standard British sock would have thermal material next to the skin, Terry fabric underfoot and natural fibre outside to absorb perspiration.

Captain Mac MacKenzie, one of the best-known and liked of British civil fliers, is to run an air training school which is to be opened shortly by American Airlines at Crawley, Sussex, and which will base its teaching on flight simulators.

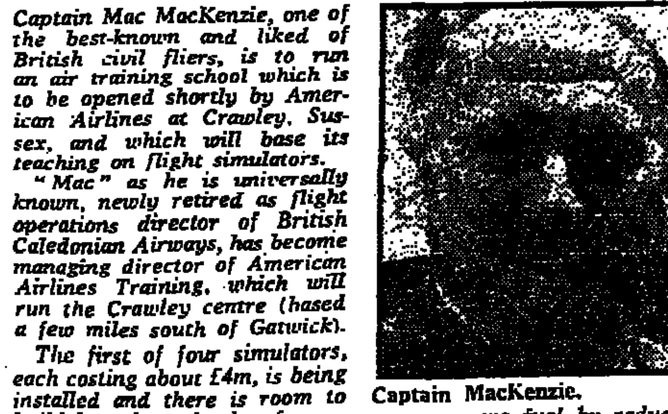
"Mac" as he is universally known, newly retired as flight operations director of British Caledonian Airways, has become managing director of American Airlines Training, which will run the Crawley centre (based a few miles south of Gatwick).

The first of four simulators, each costing about £4m, is being installed and there is room to build bays for a further four.

British Caledonian and Laker have signed long-term contracts to train their DC10 pilots at the school.

MacKenzie says that the time is right for such a simulator training school because airlines want to save fuel by reducing training flights and because aviation authorities are moving towards "zero time" training, under which pilots are allowed to transfer their qualifications from one type of jet to another entirely on simulators.

Captain MacKenzie.

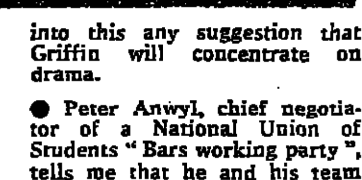


● "Terminal illness" is, like "night starvation", one of those phrases misappropriated by advertisers to put the frighteners on customers who might otherwise hang on to their cash.

As used by office planners NKR *Environment*, however, it means not a fatal sickness, but the office equivalent of housemaid's knee, the headaches, eyestrain, backaches and stiffness of the wrist and neck caused by working at computer terminals and visual display units with the wrong sort of furniture and lighting.

There is a good chance to examine this problem and some of the commercial solutions in an admirable exhibition.

"The Office and the Information Revolution", is at the Royal Institution of British Architects, Portland Place, London. But hurry—it closes tonight.



● Sir Kenneth Cork (above), doyen of company liquidators, is taking an interest of a different sort—in ITV2.

Sir Kenneth is chairman of Griffin Productions, a new company backed mainly by the Midland Bank. He is abroad at present, but Griffin non-executive director David Harrison tells me: "It is basically a group of creative and business people who are interested in providing programmes to meet a new challenge with first-class organization and financial backing."

The company is keeping the names of some of its creative acquisitions close to its chest since they are still working for other employers at the moment.

One who has stepped forward is Mike Tuchner, who directed the television play *Bar Mitzvah Boy*

Sir Kenneth chairs the Royal Shakespeare Theatre but, Harrison says, we should not read into this any suggestion that Griffin will concentrate on drama.

● Peter Anwyl, chief negotiator of a National Union of Students "Bars working party", tells me that he and his team have pulled off a refreshing discount deal with four of the biggest brewers.

Allied, Watney Mann, S & N and Courage, Anwyl says, have agreed to give student unions an average discount of 13 per cent on the 44.5m pints of beer they buy each year.

This deal, usually extended only to the likes of Trusthouse Forte, is the equivalent of 4p a pint off, the same as the Chancellor has just put on.

Two other brewers, Whitbread and Bass Charrington, would not follow suit, despite the slump in beer sales, so the working party is recommending unions to withdraw their custom.

Next on the discount trail? Anwyl tips food and stationery.

Reports on oil company prospects emerge regularly from the well-known city stockbroking firm of Phillips and Drew, which seems to be doing its own bit to boost oil consumption. It boasts a private underground car park, yet bans the humble bicycle which, it seems, "looks untidy".

Ross Davies

This announcement appears as a matter of record only.

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED

Barclays Bank Limited announces that it filed a Registration Statement containing a preliminary prospectus with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission on 31st March 1981. This filing relates to a proposed public debt issue through a finance subsidiary in the United States.

The following extracts from the preliminary prospectus are reproduced here in accordance with the Notice to Stockholders dated 30th March 1981. References to 'Domestic' operations comprise operations of Barclays Bank Limited and its United Kingdom subsidiaries other than Barclays Bank International Group, the operations of which are referred to as 'International.'

Results of Operations.

The Barclays Group profit (income before taxes, securities gains/losses, minority interests and extraordinary items) for 1980 amounted to £518 million, compared with £542 million for 1979, and £388 million for 1978. [Securities gains of £5 million in 1980 and losses of £12 million in 1979 and £14 million in 1978 have been excluded from these profit figures to accord with the United States methods of presentation.]

The contribution to Group profit by the principal areas of operations was:

	1980 £ Million	%	1979 £ Million	%	1978 £ Million	%
International:						
United Kingdom	57	11	56	10	44	11
less central costs	44	9	32	6	21	5
	13	2	24	4	23	6
United States	13	2	20	4	11	3
South Africa	65	13	40	8	36	9
Rest of the World	66	13	50	9	53	14
	157	30	134	25	123	32
Domestic	361	70	408	75	265	68
	518	100	542	100	388	100

While in absolute profit terms Domestic operations was the larger contributor during 1980 and 1979, the profitability of these operations declined by 12% during 1980 compared with a 54% increase during 1979. The 1980 decline occurred despite higher interest rates and resulted mainly from significant increases in overheads and provision for lending losses, where the higher level of new specific allowance reflected the impact of the current recession, particularly in the manufacturing sector. In addition, interest free demand deposits did not grow, reflecting in part the influence of high interest rates. As a result, expansion of the lending business was financed by interest bearing deposits and this factor resulted in a narrowing of the Domestic net interest margin. The 1980 decline occurred in the clearing bank operations, while the profit contribution of other Domestic operations, notably consumer and industrial finance, credit card operations and merchant banking, was generally the same as 1979.

The International operations of the Barclays Group performed well in 1980 and 1979. The overall profit of £157 million in 1980 was 17% higher than the profit of £134 million in 1979, which in turn was 9% higher than in 1978. The 1980 increase in profit was attributable in large measure to higher profit in South Africa and the Rest of the World, offset in part by a decline in profit in the United States and an increase in central costs of the BBI Group. The expansion of Barclays activities in the United States in terms of the acquisition in 1980 of commercial and additional consumer finance businesses and a number of banking offices came too late in the year to affect profit levels.

Interest income

The following tables show the levels of average interest earning assets and net interest income of the Domestic and International operations, and illustrate the comparative gross and net returns obtained:

	1980	1979 (£ Million)	1978
Average interest earning assets:			
Domestic	12,851	10,652	8,960
International	15,843	12,507	10,255
	28,694	23,159	19,215
Net interest income:			
Domestic	985	859	591
International	452	285	271
	1,437	1,144	862
	%	%	%
Gross yield:			
Domestic	18.1	15.3	11.2
International	13.1	10.8	9.1
Barclays Group	15.3	12.8	10.1
(Gross yield represents the interest rate earned on average interest earning assets.)			
Interest margin:			
Domestic	7.7	8.1	6.6
International	2.9	2.3	2.6
Barclays Group	5.0	4.9	4.5
(Interest margin represents net interest income, divided by average interest earning assets.)			
Interest spread:			
Domestic	3.7	3.9	4.0
International	1.2	1.3	2.1
Barclays Group	2.4	2.6	3.0
(Interest spread represents the average interest rate difference between average interest earning assets and average interest bearing funds, excluding demand deposits.)			

Analysis of provisions for lending losses

	1980	1979	1978 (£ Million)	1977	1976
Charge/(credit) for specific allowance:					
Domestic	63	(9)	(17)	62	101
International:					
United Kingdom	1	3	4	3	1
United States	21	10	1	2	9
South Africa	5	13	19	17	12
Rest of the World	13	9	11	13	15
	103	26	18	97	138
Charge for general allowance:	32	35	7	23	15
	135	61	25	120	153
Recovery of amounts charged off:	(5)	(6)	(2)	(1)	–
Provision charged against profit:	130	55	23	119	153

BARCLAYS

REG. OFFICE: 54 LOMBARD STREET, LONDON EC3P 3AH. Reg. No. 48839.

JOINT COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

MINERALS AND RESOURCES CORPORATION LIMITED ('MINORCO')
(Incorporated in Bermuda)

ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED ('AAC')
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

DE BEERS CONSOLIDATED MINES LIMITED ('DE BEERS')
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

CHARTER CONSOLIDATED LIMITED ('CHARTER')
(Incorporated in England)

In a Joint Company announcement published on 27th February 1981, members were informed of proposals for the enlargement of Minorco through the acquisition from AAC, De Beers and Charter of certain investments in exchange for the issue to those companies of new Minorco ordinary shares.

The proposals were subject to the necessary approvals of Minorco shareholders and the attention of members is drawn to the announcement published today by Minorco stating that these approvals were obtained at a meeting held on 30th March 1981.

Members are advised that the proposals have accordingly now become effective.

1st April 1981

COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

MINERALS AND RESOURCES CORPORATION LIMITED ('MINORCO')
(Incorporated in Bermuda)

With reference to the circular to members posted on 6th March 1981, it is announced that at the Special General Meeting held on 30th March 1981, members approved the proposals for the acquisition by Minorco of:

- a 28.9 per cent interest in Consolidated Gold Fields Limited:
- a 35.8 per cent interest in Charter Consolidated Limited: and
- the remaining 50 per cent interest in Anglo American Corporation of Canada (Amcan) thereby making Amcan a wholly-owned subsidiary of Minorco and increasing Minorco's effective interest in Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Co. Limited, Amcan's major interest, to 44.8 per cent.

The remaining resolutions relating to the increase of Minorco's share capital and the placing of the unissued shares under the control of the directors were passed without modification at the same meeting.

The attention of members is drawn to the Joint Company announcement by the parties published today stating that the proposals have now become effective.

1st April 1981

Stock markets

Buyers return after nervous start

The attempted assassination of President Reagan caused a nervous start in equities in spite of optimism arising from the cancelled strike in Poland.

However, confirmation that the President was almost certain to recover from his wounds saw a return of confidence and a subsequent influx of institutional orders. Indeed in spite of cautious remarks by Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England, about the economy the market continued to gather pace preferring to accept the Government's more optimistic reports on the recession.

Shortages of stock again resulted in exaggerated gains and selective buying of secondliners continued in earnest.

Having opened the day only 0.8 higher at 10 am the *FT* index eventually closed at its high for the day, 9.3 up at 528.1, the highest level since May 17, when it stood at 530.7. 530.7.

However, last night many leading jobbers were showing signs of nervousness about the recent strong run and were predicting a sharp reaction in the volatile conditions which exist.

News of the settlement in Poland enabled government securities to regain their poise, following weakness on Monday. Prices in longs recovered by as much as £⅜ while at the shorter end, a review of yields by several investors saw improvements of up to £⅛ in thin trade. The index-linked stock was unchanged at £34¼.

Leading industrials showed mostly plus signs, but turnover was described as small. ICI led the way up rising 6p to 244p before a bullish circular from brokers Wood Mackenzie. This prompted rises in **Beechams** 3p to 177p, **Glaxo** 4p to 304p, **Blue Circle** 2p to 418p, **Bowater** 4p to 240p, **Grand Metropolitan** 2p to 196p and **Dunlop** 1p to 70p. The last named still on the back of bid hopes.

Recovery hopes again boosted engineering issues, with Hawker

Brokers Laing & Cruickshank, who have just completed an analysis of First National Finance Corporation, picked up over 750,000 shares in FNFC yesterday. The shares added a penny to 33½p.

Siddeley 10p higher at 312p, **Tubes** 2p to 206p, **GKN** 4p to 144p and **Bestobell** 8p to 426p on the back of recent figures. **Baker Perkins** was another strong market, 6p higher at 86p, but **G. M. Firth** rallied 5p to 60p amid rumours that the recent abortive bid talks had left the way open for a new offer.

In stores **J. Hepworth** advanced 6p to 121p after reports that **British Land**, with a small shake, had been buying more shares in the market and that a bid might soon result. **Owen Owen**, the old takeover favourite closed firm at 160p as investors awaited news of a property revaluation which might be as high as £5 a share.

But **Selincourt** retreated ¼p to 12¾ on rumours that a line of 2m shares was on offer following weekend comment, and **Freemans (London SW9)** slipped 2p to 130p on further consideration of recent figures. **Bentalls** was sought after 3p better at 38p.

On the bid front **Savoy Hotels 'A'** closed unchanged at 200p following denials of a counter bid in opposition to the bid from **Trusthouse Forte**, up 3p to 221p. **Invergordon** leapt 12p to 199p amid rumours that Carlton Industries, with a 72 per cent stake, would sell once the anticipated bid from Hawker Siddeley takes place.

Elsewhere, favourable comment added 2p to **British Syphon** at 51p, and **Wedgwood** 4p to 82p, while speculative buying hoisted **Rexmore** 5p to 24p, **Jonas Woodhead** 9p to 43p, **Small & Tidmas** 5p to 60p, **Pittard Group** 4p to 48p, **Bertam Rubber** 10p to 103p and **Grindleys Holdings** 5p to 190p.

Among companies reporting, better-than-expected figures boosted **Peachy Property** 2p to 157p, **Bunzl Pulp & Paper** 4p to 139p, **Law Land** 4½p to 94½p, **Molins** 1p to 123p, **Ofrex Group** 8p to 81p and **Appleyard** 3p to 56p. **Rohan Group** closed 10p better at 165p after figures and details of a rights issue.

But **Booker McConnell** fell 1p to 62p, and **Cape Industries** 4p to 112p, while still reflecting recent figures **Blue Bird Confectionery** fell 7p to 53p.

Awaiting trading statements, **Babcock International** rose 4p to 115p, **Taylor Woodrow** 8p to 569p, **Sharnaware** 3p to 153p and **Harris Queensway** 2p to 208p.

Electricals benefited from the news of a major expenditure programme by British Telecom and continued stock shortages. **GEC** rose 11p to 676p, **Plessey** 11p to 327p, and **Standard Telephone** 10p to 509p, **Racal** was 2p stronger at 379p and **Thorn EMI** 4p to 330p.

Oils spent a quiet day but were generally firmer in anticipation of better conditions overnight on Wall Street. **Ultramar** rallied 5p to 483p and

Some 1m shares in Bass changed hands via a put-through at 215p to 215½p yesterday. The shares closed at 216p, up 2p.

Lasmo 10p to 589p in majors while **Charterhall** jumped 7p to 77p after figures.

Tighter conditions resulted in general improvements in insurance and property stocks. **Eagle Star** rebounded 3p to 236p, **Commercial Union** 6p to 168p, **General Accident** 10p to 340p and **Royal** 6p to 381p while **MEPC** added 3p to 248p, **Land Securities** 3p to 427p and **Hammerson "A"** 5p to 640p.

Equity turnover for March 30 was £140.818 (bargains 26,118). Active stocks yesterday were, according to the Exchange Telegraph, Shell, ICL, P and O, Sound Diffusion, Ocean Transport and Trading, De Beers, GEC, Royal Insurance, Savoy Hotels and Banque Canadienne Nationale.

Traditional options: Dealers reported increased activity yesterday. Calls were made in Amalgamated Distilled Products at 5½p, in ICL, Tricentrol at 24p, Burmah at 15½p and Bowater at 22p. Doubles were completed in Intervision and P and O.

Traded options: A total of 2,456 contracts were made. Cons Gold attracted 168, BP 53, BBL 54 and ICI 329.

Latest results

Int or Fin Company	£m Sales	£m Profits	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
American Trust (F)	—(—)	3.1(2.8)	2.33(2.05)	1.4(—)	15/5	2.1(1.85)
Appleyard (F)	116.5(129.5)	1.88*(0.65)	—(5.99)	—(2.0)	—	—(4.25)
Booker McCon'll (F)	834(670)	15.2(25.0)	9.48(15.51)	1.87(1.87)	—	3.12(3.12)
Bunzl Pulp (F)	169.5(163.1)	11.14(13.28)	25.6(27.0)	3.02(2.74)	1/7	7.23(6.6)
Burndene (I)	4.8(5.37)	0.49*(0.09)	4.8*(0.4)	Nil(0.25)	—	—(—)
Cape Inds (F)	218.8(203.8)	6.7(12.5)	20.7(43.6)	7.3(7.3)	—	11.2(11.2)
Charterhall (I)	0.69(0.49)	0.08(0.02)	0.24(0.07)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Dixon-Strand (F)	0.68(0.43)	0.36*(0.25*)	—(—)	Nil(Nil)	—	Nil(Nil)
Deltight Inds (I)	2.65(2.54)	0.23(0.19)	—(—)	—(—)	—(—)	—(—)
Dufay (F)	10,718(11,056)	0.04(0.61)	4.1(4.7)	2(1.48)	18/5	2.0(2.68)
Law Land	10.8(9.9)	0.28(0.11)	1.15(0.73)	0.95(—)	7/7	1.5(1.52)
Ofrex Group (F)	45.2(44.5)	2.5(5.0)	12.29(14.86)	2.5(2.5)	23/5	3.67(3.67)
Park Place (I)	2.4(1.75)	0.32(0.26)	3.1(2.8)	1.25(1.07)	22/5	—(—)
Padang Senang	—(—)	0.18(0.15)	1.9(1.6)	1.1(1.0)	—	1.1(1.0)
Peachey (I)	2.7(2.7)	1.85(1.78)	3.9(3.9)	1.5(1.5)	27/5	—(4)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnisgn are net. * = Loss.

Appleyard omits payo[ut] as loss nears £2m

By Peter Wainwright

A taxable profit of £65[…] has been turned into a lo[ss of] £1.88m at the Appleyard G[roup] of Companies over 1980, [and] there is no dividend. Turn[over] fell from £129.5m to £116[…]

The Leeds-based motor [and] commercial vehicle distri[butor] with franchises for Rolls-R[oyce,] BL, and Ford made a lo[ss of] £845,000 before tax in th[e …] months to last June and p[aid] the interim gross dividend.

It was a year of streaml[ining] and disposals. These cos[t the] group £883,000 net. The f[igure] was arrived at after closur[e and] redundancy costs of £1.87[…] part offset by £940,00[0] property sale profits [and] £42,000 of ex-gratia re[…] from a leading supplier. [The] exceptional nature of [these] transactions is reflected i[n the] decision to debit the £883,000 "below the line" [which] is after arriving at net los[s.]

Including the extraord[inary] items, net profits after a[…] tax change moved from […] £298,000 to losses of £2.7[…]

Appleyard paid a total [divi]dend of 6.07p gross in 197[9 and] 9.07p the year before.

Mr Ian Appleyard, chairm[an of] the Appleyard Group of [Com]panies.

This year, by contrast, s[…] be better. The group heade[d by] Mr Ian Appleyard, will be[nefit] from new cars from each […] suppliers, the Rolls-Royce S[ilver] Spirit, the BL Metro and [the] new Ford Escort.

Interest rates have start[ed to] fall, and every 1 per cent […] is worth to Appleyard ar[ound] £100,000 a year. This year […] be difficult for car sales bu[t the] group has slimmed down. [At a] heavy cost it has already d[one a] lot to clear unwieldy stocks [and] close loss-making parts of [the] group.

Since the end of the fina[ncial] year a further property […] £250,000 producing a su[rplus] over cost of £199,000. In [addi]tion, the depot and four[…] site at Crow Road, Glasgow [is] on the market and in Leeds [the] group will soon be letting [more] than 130,000 sq ft of si[ngle] storey buildings and off[ices.] But the cost of contracting [the] labour force from 2,750 to 1[…] in two years, and relea[sing] assets has been high.

The ratio of total borrow[ings] to shareholders' funds fell [last] year from 59.6 per cent to […] per cent, but total net as[sets] also fell, from £15.38m [to] £11.82m.

The shares rose 3p to 56[p, a] new peak for the year, but m[ore] on speculative possibilities t[han] on hopes of a a substan[tial] trading recovery.

Briefly

Rivoli Cinemas: Pretax profits for half-year to October 5 1980, £80,000 (£69,000).

Castlefield (Klang) Rubber Estate (subsidiary of Harrisons and Crosfield): Turnover for half-year to December 31 1980, £1.02m (£873,000). Pretax profits, £346,000 (£380,000). Profit figure based on estimate for full year proportioned for six months.

Anglo Indonesian: Anglo Indonesian Corporation offer for Eva Industries extended to April 13.

Argo Investments: Board has decided that United Kingdom share register be closed and the shareholders on it be removed to the company's register in Canberra, Australia.

Baird Textile Holdings, a wholly-owned subsidiary of William Baird is purchasing 50 per cent of Spacecoat Garments for £50,000 cash plus a deferred consideration up to £75,000, depending on future profits.

Sunbeam Wolsey: Dividend 2p (4p) for 1980. Turnover £22m (£24m). Pretax profit £326,000 (£1.48m). EPS 4.02p (13.59p) and before employment subsidy 0.24p (8.5p).

Dixor-Strand: No dividend for 1980 (same). Turnover £682,000 (£433,000). Pretax loss £363,000 (loss £252,000).

Padang Senang Rubber: Pretax profit for year to September 30 £181,000 (£150,000). EPS 1.9p (1.6p adjusted). Dividend 1.1p (1.0p adjusted).

Park Place Investments: Interim dividend 1.78p gross (1.53p). Turnover £2.4m (£1.75m) for half year to December 31. Pretax profit £324,000 (£262,000). EPS 3.1p (2.8p). It has been considered prudent to establish material provisions against possible bad debts in the finance subsidiaries.

Law Land Co: Dividend for 1980 raised from 1.78p to 2.14p gross. Board estimates a valuation of properties would show net surplus in excess of £11m over book value of £63.86m. No credit taken for this in accounts. Turnover investment £6.0m (£5.14m) and trading £4.8m (£4.8m). Pretax profit £282,000 (£115,000). EPS 1.15p (0.73p).

American Trust: Net revenue for year to March 31 £1.887m (£1.65m) after tax. EPS 2.33p (2.05p). NAV 80.6p (65.3p). Dividend 3p (2.64p) gross.

Invergordon Distillers (Holdings): Mr Leon Roydon, chairman, says in his annual statement that early indications are that Scotch whisky industry will continue to be affected by adverse conditions that prevailed in the latter part of 1980 resulting in orders for new fillings of Scotch whiskies being reduced.

Kangra: Group will not be extending its offer for Renwick. Acceptances and shares held before and during the offer now represent 89.26 per cent of the equity.

Gillett Bros Discount: Temple Bar Investment Trust has bought a 5.49 per cent stake.

Westland Aircraft: a subsidiary has bought Delaney Gallay Dynamics to broaden its market in heat transfer equipment. Net assets are £125,000. Part of the deal means that Westland will relocate the business in Yeovil, Somerset, from its London base. Existing Westland heat transfer operation at Chard, Somerset, will be transferred to Yeovil later this year.

Bodycote International: Bodycote's subsidiary, Blandburgh, has acquired from GEC the assets of its contract heat treatment division situated at Aldridge, near Wolverhampton, for £437,000 cash.

Cornhill Insurance Group: In a year of keen competition and in the face of inflation and a deepening recession, Cornhill achieved a pretax profit of £9.3m, compared with £6.3m in the previous year (1979). General business premiums increased by 14 per cent to just under £150m.

Negretti bid to go unconditional

By Bryan Appleyard

Western Scientific is to go unconditional with its £1.45m bid for scientific instrument maker Negretti & Zambra.

Western's advisers, Schroders, will make the announcement this morning even though acceptances for the agreed bid have fallen short of 90 per cent. By yesterday afternoon the acceptance level was 88.69 per cent.

This means that Western needs the assent of a further 40,000 shares to take it over the 90 per cent level at which it can acquire the remainder compulsorily.

Up to the last minute Schroders and Western were undecided as to whether to go unconditional as it was clear a large enough minority was holding out against the 25p-a-share bid.

But the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation, which was the largest shareholder in Negretti after the National Enterprise Board, yesterday announced it had picked up another 75,000 shares at 24⅞p, which it intended to assent to the offer. The seller of the shares was investment house Norton Warburg, now in liquidation.

This took the acceptances close enough to the 90 per cent level to persuade Western to go ahead. The final closing date for the offer is June 14.

Western's threat to withdraw arose after it became clear that the Negretti share price in the market was staying above the bid level as a result of resistance to the bid.

Existing holders of the shares felt the offer price was too low and new buyers came in believing either that Western would maintain the quote or that another bidder at a higher price could be found if Western were forced to withdraw.

In particular clients of stockbrokers Heseltine Moss and Pilling Trippier, representing a significant slice of the equity, were holding out against the bid.

Negretti's shares fell 4p to 26p yesterday.

First-half profits up slightly at Peachey

Peachey Property Corporation's interim figures reflect its policy of switching away from residential into commercial property although the £10.5m Avenue Close acquisition is not included.

Pre-tax profits improved by 3 per cent from £1.78m to £1.85m in the six months to December 25, with the only improved contribution coming from rents. Net rents rose from £1.45m to £1.7m while trading property profits dipped

Lord Mais, chairman of Peachey

Lord Mais, the chairman, attributed the trading property decline also to the slowdown in the residential property market in the latter part of 1980 as mortgages and sales became more difficult.

Interest and dividends received also fell from £574,000 to £542,000 as short-term deposits were used for increased property investment. Interest payable dropped from £368,000 to £242,000 as some of the £6.9m rights issue was used to reduced borrowings for one month.

The interim dividend has been maintained at 2.14p gross and cost £449,000. The decline in residential property interests has also helped to reduce administrative costs from £608,000 to £592,000. Lord Mais said progress would continue to be maintained in the second half through development, reinvestment and trading property sales.

The first-time contribution from Avenue Close, whose acquisition has already strengthened Peachey's office portfolio as about 60 per cent of Avenue's value lies in its central London office property, will be improved by rent reviews due this year.

Increased quotas for coffee sought

By Michael Prest
Commodities Correspondent

A request that African coffee producers be given larger export quotas was made to the International Coffee Organisation at its London meeting yesterday by Mr Denis Bra Kanon, the Ivory Coast's agriculture minister.

The ICO, which has been meeting since the beginning of last week, imposed export quotas last year as a way of keeping coffee prices up. It was the first time quotas had been imposed since coffee prices soared i nthe mid-1970s.

But there are now disagreements over the allocation of shortfalls—the difference between quotas and actual exports. Under the international coffee pact the difference may be distributed among exporters who can sell more than their quota allows.

Mr Bra Kanon, who has also played a prominent role representing his country's interests during negotiations over a new international cocoa agreement, yesterday asked the ICO to set up a working group to study distribution of market shares.

The African and Malagasy Coffee Organisation wants a quota of 7m bags compared with 6.66m in the last coffee year. Kenya wants to raise its quota by 500,000 bags to 1.8m.

Dufay Bitumastic falls to £40,000 for year

By Our Financial Staff

Pretax profits of Darlington special coatings producer Dufay Bitumastic fell from £611,000 to just £40,000 in the year to December 31. But a £420,000 tax credit allowed it to pay a 2.86p gross final dividend.

The interim dividend was omitted in August. A current cost loss of £615,000 before the taxation relief and extraordinary costs, leaves the 1980 dividend uncovered on a CCA basis.

Group sales fell by 3 per cent to £10.7m, and historic trading profits were nearly halved at £555,000. Depreciation of £235,000 and interest costs up 28 per cent to £320,000 soaked up the bulk of that.

Mr Cecil Attwood, the chairman and managing director, said yesterday that group bank borrowings were around £200,000, against overdrafts of £1m at the end of 1979. A reorganization now nearing completion should leave the group in better shape, he said.

The group's subsidiary, Dufay Titanine, made a £201,000 pretax profit in 1980, against £376,000 a year earlier, after interest costs of £115,000. It is to pay a single, final dividend totalling £200,000. It also made a current cost loss, of £46,000.

Tax relief of £135,000 left its historic attributable profits only 4 per cent down at £336,000 before an extraordinary profit of £4,000.

The British Steel Corporation is Dufay Bitumastic's biggest customer and its 13-week stoppage in the company's first quarter hit the group.

The recession began to affect British industry generally during the second quarter of 1980, though at the halfway stage the group was hoping that Wailes Dove Bitumastic would regain the ground lost during the BSC strike by the year-end.

1980-81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Group	67xd	—	6.7	10.0	6.0
50	21	Armitage & Rhodes	50	—	1.4	2.8	20.6
192	92½	Bardon Hill	189	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
98	88	Deborah Services	96	+1	5.5	5.7	4.8
126	88	Frank Horsell	106	—	6.4	6.0	3.3
110	39	Frederick Parker	48	−1	1.7	3.5	20.9
110	72	George Blair	72	−1	3.1	4.3	—
110	59	Jackson Group	106	−1	6.9	6.5	4.0
124	103	James Burrough	118	—	7.9	6.7	9.7
334	244	Robert Jenkins	325	—	31.3	9.6	—
55	50	Scruttons "A"	50xd	—	5.3	10.6	3.6
224	215	Torday Limited	214	−1	15.1	7.1	3.6
23	8	Twinlock Ord	10	—	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	72	—	15.0	20.8	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	46	—	3.0	6.5	7.1
103	81	Walter Alexander	100	—	5.7	5.7	5.5
263	181	W. S. Yeates	260	+1	13.1	5.0	4.9

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Profits slide but Bunzl payout lifted

By Margareta Pagano

Bunzl Pulp and Paper saw pretax profits decline by the ...m forecast at the interim stage but the dividend payment was increased by 10 per cent.

Pretax profits fell to £11.1m in the year to December 31 from £...2.2m last time, excluding contributions from Bunzl and Biach, which was sold last year. Sales rose to £169.5m from £163.2m. The final dividend has been raised to 4.3p gross, making a total gross payment for the year of 10.32p against 9.3p last time.

Bunzl, which makes cigarette filter materials, packing, pulp and paper products, earns over half of its profits overseas. At exchange rates ruling at the start of 1980 pretax profits would have been £12.5m but some £1.3m was lost on currency translations.

Mr Ernest Beaumont, the chairman, said yesterday that United Kingdom trading had been poor throughout the year although paper and pulp merchanting had shown some improvement. Difficult trading conditions were continuing, he said, and the group was unable to give any indication of the outlook for this year.

The dividend increase reflects the group's stronger balance sheet since the sale of Bunzl and Biach for £11.6m last year. Freehold properties have been revalued during the year resulting in a £12m surplus.

Net cash at the year end was £5m. This helps the group in its search for acquisitions both at home and overseas. The United States and German markets are being explored and progress is being made. Any acquisition probably will be in the packaging business.

Pretax profits are arrived at after £2.7m profits from associated companies and a loss of £482,000 from discontinued concerns against £1.9m for closures last time. After tax of £1m. in the United Kingdom, £1m from associates and £1.7m overseas, attributable profits are £6.6m compared with £7.5m. This gives earnings a share of 25.6p against 27p.

Mr Ernest Beaumont, chairman of Bunzl Pulp and Paper.

Publishing group brings numbers on USM to 27

By Margareta Pagano

The publishing group Metal Bulletin PLC, publishers of *Metal Bulletin* and a string of other commercial minerals and metals journals, was yesterday the 27th private company to come to the Unlisted Securities Market.

The placing of 21 per cent of the equity or 919,800 shares at 10p each, was arranged by stockbrokers Laurence, Prust, and dealings are expected to start on April 7. At the placing price of 83p the market capitalization of the group is £3.6m.

Metal Bulletin was started as a newsletter in 1913 by the grandfather of the present chairman, Mr Francis Rice-Oxley, the group also publishes the *Metal Bulletin Monthly* and a monthly journal, *Industrial Minerals*. The group has a host of book titles, the *Lord Mayor's Show* catalogue, and arranges international conferences.

Since 1976 the group has more than doubled both sales and profits. At the year end to December 1980 sales were £3.43m and pretax profits £782,000. Over the period sales of all activities have grown while those from journals and surveys went up from £1.2m to £2.7m last year. Sales from international conferences, started in 1974, expanded from £27,000 in 1976 to £308,000 last year.

Mr Rice-Oxley described the USM as "just the right vehicle" for the move to a public base, a move it had always planned. The group's success to date, he said, results from its policy of specializing in one-industry publications and building up ancillary activities.

With the placing the group is looking to expand, perhaps by acquisition, by increasing overseas sales of *Metal Bulletin* and increasing congress activities. A New York office has recently opened and the group also runs a news service for latest metal prices.

Some two thirds of revenue is derived from sales overseas. Last year 8,000 copies were sold overseas and 3,000 copies in the United Kingdom. Due to sale by subscription the group had about £1.7m cash on balance in December. Of this some £900,000 was from advance subscriptions.

After the placing Mr Rice-Oxley and his family interests account for some 43 per cent of the equity while the family of Mr Graham Walton, his cousin, holds some 33 per cent.

Further debt provision at Wigfall

By Philip Robinson

A further provision for bad debts is to be made with the annual results of TV rental and electrical retailer Henry Wigfall & Son, despite the sale last year of the group's finance credit business to Tricity Finance.

The provision will be substantial. Last year the accounts showed £1.6m for bad debts and £290,000 redundancy and closure costs. But this was *offset* by £1.95m of depreciation eliminated after the group's property revaluation.

This year there is no revaluation planned and although the workforce has been reduced from 2,340 to 1,950 since last March, there will be no redundancy costs.

Since December the group has employed a special full-time debt collector and its policy towards defaulters has been much tougher. The group's new computer now means customer accounts can be checked weekly instead of monthly.

Wigfall is also thinking of resuming writing its own credit terms. With falling interest rates is is considered *more profitable* than taking a "front-end" commission from Tricity Finance. If it does—a decision is likely to be taken in about two months—Wigfall's new debt collector will be responsible for authorizing who gets credits in addition to chasing defaulters.

Mr Richard Morrell, Wigfall managing director, said: "Certainly in the past we have sanctioned credit which we should not have. But it is amazing how people start paying up when you take a few to court. I hope the provision we will make will be sufficient and it will be a non-recurring item."

Selling off the credit side was part of a strategy influenced by Wigfall's non-executive chairman, Mr Michael Abbott, who joined the group in February last year, but died eight months later. It was designed to help reduce borrowings. Total group debt this summer should be down from £13m to £10m.

Lake & Elliot tops £300,000

By Catherine Gunn

Interim pretax profits at engineering group Lake & Elliot recovered to £306,000 after an £850,000 loss a year earlier. But last year's loss was caused by the national engineering strike, an internal dispute and labour troubles at a leading customer, and is not strictly comparable.

This year, Lake & Elliot is suffering from the the recession. A more normal comparison for the first half, to January 31, is the 1978-79 interim profit of £545,000 before tax, against which the latest figures look weak.

The interim dividend has been reinstated at 1.43p gross. Last year it was omitted, but a ...86p gross final dividend was paid after a full year profit of £...230,000 pretax. The shares rose 3p to 42p after the interim figures yesterday.

Mr Peter Edwards, the chairman, said yesterday that though national foundry orders were at a record low, Lake & Elliot's two foundries contributed half the group's interim profit.

The valve business supplied the other half of the profit. The group is negotiating to buy a small specialist valve company in the United States and is setting up a valve servicing joint venture in the Far East. Eventually, Mr Edwards hopes to see half the group's profits generated overseas.

Ofrex Group profit halved to £2.5m

By Rosemary Unsworth

Ofrex Group, the office supplies manufacturer and distributor, found the going tough last year, as its industrial products came up against the recession.

Pretax profits were halved to £2.5m in 1980 while turnover was static at £45m. However, the final dividend was maintained at 3.57p gross giving a same again total of 5.24p, which is covered 3.4 times.

The shares climbed 5p to 78p after the announcement to yield 9.6 per cent.

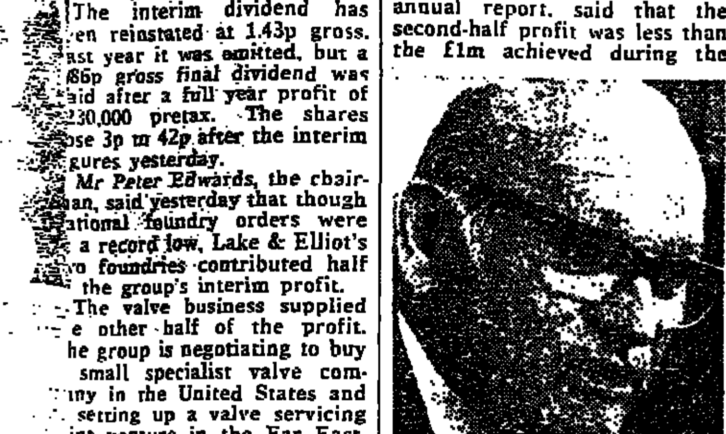
Mr George Drexler, the chairman, who prefers to detail the trading background in the annual report, said that the second-half profit was less than the £1m achieved during the first half. However, earnings were boosted by the release of £707,000 of deferred tax from the implementation of the new stock relief rules. Without this, earnings a share would have been 8.68p instead of 12.29p.

The profits' downturn was partly a result of the large number of bankruptcies in furniture manufacturing, with 140 companies going out of business last year. On top of that the motor trade's difficulties compounded the problems for Ofrex which supplies seat belt buckles.

With half of Ofrex's turnover going overseas the strength of sterling also made trading difficult as the group's goods became 30 per cent more expensive in the American market. The group has decided to stay there and is launching a range of office machines there, although there will be no immediate profit from the operation. Profits from office products were static.

Mr Drexler also said that reorganization and slimming down of staff was another factor influencing the figures although the changes will help "in an extremely difficult year in 1981, and lead to a recovery in profit levels".

Borrowings have risen by £600,000 to £3.8m partly because of the Cumberland acquisition and high stock levels pushed interest charges to £400,000. Ofrex plans to reduce borrowings by about £2m by the end of the current year.



Mr George Drexler, chairman of Ofrex Group.

Burndene omits interim after loss

There is no interim dividend from Burndene Investment, against 0.36p gross, after a drop from pretax profits of £93,000 to a loss of £494,000 for the six months to November 30. Earnings a share of 0.4p turned into a loss of 4.8p.

The board expects losses for the full year to be similar to the £629,000 returned last year.

The group is in dispute with the Inland Revenue over tax amounting to about £515,000 provided in earlier years but considered by the directors not to be payable.

Unigate to sell Cow and Gate to Nutricia

Negotiations have been concluded for Nutricia of Holland to buy the Cow and Gate Infant food business from Unigate, subject to obtaining certain governmental and other approvals.

Nutricia is to acquire Cow and Gate's head office and food sales facilities in Trowbridge, Wiltshire, and manufacturing premises in Wells, Somerset, and Wexford, Republic of Ireland.

Phoenix Mining takes 50pc stake in Kane

Terms have been agreed and contracts exchanged for the purchase by Phoenix Mining and Finance of 50 per cent of the issued share capital of Kane Investments, a private property development company registered in Jersey.

The initial consideration for the acquisition will be £60,000 and 60,000 ordinary shares of Phoenix.

Common Brothers sells tanker

Common Brothers has completed the sale of one of its product tankers, the Newburn, for about £7m in cash. Newburn, a 32,000 dwt product tanker, was built to the company's order in 1972 and was operated until the end of last year in demise charter from Nile Steamship.

Last November the financing arrangements were reorganized and Newburn was purchased out of bank borrowings. Of the net proceeds, £3m will be used to reduce the bank borrowing raised in connection with the purchase. The balance will be employed as working capital.

Rights issue by Rohan Group

Rohan Group reports higher profits and dividends, as well as proposing a rights issue to raise about £2.72m (Irish). In 1980, pretax profits reached a record £3.7m, compared with £1.9m for the previous eight months. A total dividend of 15p gross is being paid—almost double the 7.61p gross for the preceding eight months.

North Sea delays hit Charterhall

By Catherine Gunn

Delays in bringing the Buchan oil field in the North Sea on stream have put back Charterhall's plans to start paying dividends, Mr Derek Williams, the chairman, announced yesterday.

However, it looks as though Buchan will be in production by the end of June, when Charterhall's own financial year ends, and the board still hopes to pay a modest final dividend for 1980-81. Last autumn it planned to make an interim payment in May 1981, assuming production at Buchan in February. Charterhall has an aggregate 4.33 per cent interest in the field.

Interim figures to December 31 published yesterday show a pretax profit of £85,000, up from nearly £20,000 thanks to the income earned on the £3.8m rights issue proceeds. Turnover rose from £492,000 to £695,000. In 1979-80 Charterhall made a 58,000 pretax loss.

The group won three more North Sea licences in the seventh round, including a 10 per cent share in the premium block 2.4, which cost it £500,000. Seismic work on these blocks may start this year. Major expenditure in the short-term will go on on the 73 9 acreage won in the sixth round.

Charterhall plans to float off part of its Australian interests, leaving it with an associated Australian company which will finance its exploration out of the flotation proceeds. In the United States it is committed to spending $3.13m on its joint venture in the Williston Basin.

It will be mid-1983 before the group sees much cash flowing in from the Buchan field since the operator, BP, has to take out Charterhall's share of the capital cost on the 4.01 per cent net production interest, though the small working interest will generate income much sooner. Mr Williams does not envisage another rights issue, however.

Deutsche Bank plans rights issue

International

Deutsche Bank, West Germany's largest commercial bank, said yesterday it was increasing its 1980 dividend to DM10 from DM9 in 1979 and planning to raise DM472m (£100m) through a rights issue.

The bank also said that it had increased operating profits by 28 per cent in 1980, but it did not specify any earnings figures.

The bank said it would raise capital from DM1,114m to DM1,232m by a share subscription offered at one new share for every 10 shares or options held under a 1977 Eurodollar bond with options offered by Deutsche Bank's Luxembourg subsidiary.

The subscription price will be DM200, compared with a share price of DM290.50 on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange yesterday. The subscription will run from April 28 to May 12.

The bank also said it was asking shareholders to approve authorized capital of DM250m to enable the bank to raise capital when needed in the future.

Commenting on the higher 1980 operating result, Deutsche Bank said "an important part" of the higher earnings would be set aside in reserves to cover what are seen as increasing risks for domestic and international banking resulting from "the difficult economic environment".

At the same time yesterday, Berliner Handels und Frankfurter Bank said it was raising about DM35m through a one-for-ten rights issue at DM140 per DM50 nominal share.

The rights issue will be conducted between April 8 and April 28. It will increase nominal capital by DM12.4m to DM129.2m.

Unprofitable start at Opel

Adam Opel, the West German subsidiary of General Motors, recorded losses in the first part of 1981. Herr Robert Stempel, managing board chairman, said.

Despite the unprofitable start, Opel plans to increase car production by 10 per cent to 837,000 units this year. The company also plans to increase export sales to 444,000 from 410,000 in 1980, while domestic sales are expected to remain little changed at 403,000.

RSV losses grow

Rijn-Schelde-Verolme of Rotterdam had a net loss of Fl28.7m (£5.5m) in 1980, against a loss of Fl21.9m in 1979. Turnover rose to Fl2,400m from Fl2,200m

RSV said the 1980 loss was due mainly to serious setbacks in its processing and energy activities.

Foreign earnings help Schroders

Lord Airlie, chairman of Schroders, the merchant banking and life assurance group, puts the group's good 1980 performance down to its overseas earnings and wide geographical spread, in his statement to shareholders on the report and accounts published yesterday. Schroders made profits of £...85m, against £6m, after tax and before extraordinary profits last year.

Lord Airlie sees no immediate end to the uncertainty created by inflation and recession, which makes the group's markets very volatile and vulnerable to dramatic changes in exchange rates. His enthusiasm

Scottish Life decides against loan-back schemes

By Margaret Stone

Scottish Life Assurance, one of the leading life offices north of the border, has come out strongly against both loan-back schemes for personal pension plans, and also unit-linked life assurance.

Mr William Stewart, marketing manager, said yesterday that the company would definitely not be offering its private pension plan clientele the option of loan facilities alongside the plan. Although loan-back schemes are in vogue at the moment, with one life office after another offering them, Scottish Life feels that they are an expensive option for personal pension plan holders who would be better off looking for a loan elsewhere.

Although it will not guarantee to find its customers a loan, Scottish Life reckons that in most circumstances it should be able to help secure a lioan

The company does not hold such views against unit-linked life assurance, but at the moment has made it clear that, unlike some of its rivals recently, it has no intention of doing other than offering traditional life assurance contracts.

March 'new money' jumps

Statistics from Midland Bank show that the £164.8m "new money" raised by the issue of marketable securities in March was the highest March figure in the United Kingdom since 1976.

It was £18m less than the total for February. In the first quarter, £568m was raised, compared with £123.3m in the same period last year—the largest quarterly total since the third quarter of 1975.

Business appointments

Nationalized Industries group chairman elected

Sir Robert Marshall, chairman of the National Water Council, has been elected group chairman of the Nationalized Industries' Chairmen's Group for 1981-82.

Mr Tom Mayer is the new chairman and managing director of EMI Electronics and will also be responsible for EMI-Varian, EMI-MEC and UPM. He succeeds Dr P. A. Allaway who has retired.

Sir Kenneth Berrill has been appointed chairman of Vickers da Costa.

Viscount Montgomery of Alamein is to become a non-executive director of KCA International.

Mr John Crawford, group chief executive of Motherwell Bridge (Holdings) has become deputy president of the Process Plant Association.

Mr Richard Bowen is the new chief executive of MWP Incentives. He replaces Mr William Proby, who will be returning to Morgan Grenfell & Co but will remain a non-executive director of MWP. The other members of the board are Mr George Law (chairman), Mr Peter Lawson, Mr Jeremy Cohen, Mr Barry Young, Mr John McLean Fox and Mr Roger Cort.

Mr W. Major has been appointed chief general manager of European Arab Bank, London.

Mr D. Allan Gilchrist has joined the board of Northern Rock Building Society. He remains chief executive under the title of managing director.

Mr Denis Allport is to become a non-executive director of Beecham Group Mr Allport is chairman and chief executive of Metal Box.

Mr Ian A. Johnston has become a director of Guy Butler (International), the foreign exchange and currency deposit brokers.

Mr Michael Burrows, financial controller of J. Hepworth and Son, has been appointed to the boards of Club 24, the group's credit arm jointly owned with Forward Trust, and Hepworths (Properties).

Dr Malcolm D. Skillicorn, the general manager (business development) of Guest, Keen and Nettlefolds, has been appointed a part-time member of the Midlands Electricity Board for three years.

Mr James R. Holdsworth, the vice-chairman of the North Riding and Durham County Branch of the National Farmers' Union, has been appointed a part-time member of the Northern Eastern Electricity Board for three years. Mr Roger C. Spoor, a partner in the Newcastle office of Arthur Young McClelland Moores & Co, chartered accountants, has been appointed a part-time member of the North Eastern Electricity Board for three years.

Mr D. R. Brown becomes operations director; Mr J. G. Darcy, marketing director; Mr H. Lodge, finance director; and Mr F. Petch, engineering director of Tankfreight.

Mr Michael Gibbs, previously deputy chief executive of the Gateway Building Society, has become managing director and secretary on the retirement of Mr Sydney Burton, who will remain on the board. Mr Neil MacMahon becomes general manager (administration), Mr Brian Rogles general manager (finance and personnel), Mr Alan North assistant general manager (marketing) and Mr Richard Groom assistant general manager (development). Mr David Burford is appointed chief accountant and Mr John Nelson executive regional coordinator for Wales.

Mr J. C. Dwek, chairman of Bodycote International has joined the board of Branon as a non-executive director.

Mr Colin Burton Stewart has been appointed a director of Anglo-Swiss Reinsurance Brokers (UK). Mr C. Francis Cole will cease to be chairman and director from October 31, but will remain with the company as a consultant.

Mr Gil Crawshaw has been appointed deputy managing director, Mr Joe Grieves contracts director and Mr Ted Ward commercial director of P. Whelan Ltd.

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER bars closed barely steady; cathodes were quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £853-55.00 a metric ton; three months, £865-55.50. Sales, 3,350. Cash cathodes, £836-38.00; three months £842-44.00. Sales, 75 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £855-56.00; three months, £858-58.50. Settlement, £856.00. Sales, 7,100 tons. Cash cathodes, £828-29.00; three months, £845-46.00. Settlement, £829.00. Sales, 60 tons.

TIN.—Standard tin was steady; high-grade tin was idle.—Afternoon.—Standard, cash, £6,150-50 a tonne; three months, £6,225-30. Sales, 480 tonnes. High grade, cash, £6,150-50; three months, £6,425-70. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard, cash, £6,125-30; three months, £6,225-35. Settlement, £6,130. Sales, 550 tonnes. High grade, cash, £6,125-50; three months, £6,225-35. Settlement, £6,130. Sales, nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works was unchanged yesterday at 30.91 ringgit per kilo.

LEAD was barely steady after firmer. Afternoon.—Cash, £336-37.00 per tonne; three months, £341.50-42.00. Sales, 3,325 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £337.50-38.00; three months, £341.50-42.30. Settlement, £338.00. Sales, 11,525 tonnes.

ZINC closed barely steady.—Afternoon. Cash, £359-61.00 per tonne; three months, £368.50-69.00. Sales, 2,100 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £361-63.00; three months, £371-71.50. Settlement, £365.00. Sales, 3,150 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £226.10 ($507.00) a troy ounce.

SILVER was easier.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 549.05p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1233.00); three months, 565.80p (1278.40c); six months, 580.90p (1310.90c); one year, 618.10p (1418.20c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 529-31.0p; three months, 547-49.0p. Sales, 42 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 547-49.0p; three months, 565-66.0p. Settlement, 549.00p. Sales, 25 lots.

ALUMINIUM was quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash, £639-39.00 per tonne; three months, £643-45.50. Sales, 675 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £638-39.00; three months, £643-45.00. Settlement, £639.00. Sales, 1,975 tonnes.

NICKEL was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2810-15 per tonne; three months, £2745-2800. Sales, 234 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2810-20; three months, £2800-05. Settlement, £2920. Sales, 222 tonnes.

RUBBER was hesitant yesterday (pence per kilo).—May, 55.20-55.50; June, 56.00-56.30; July/Sept, 58.50-58.60; Oct/Dec, 61.50-61.60; Jan/March, 64.40-64.50; April/June, 67.30-67.40; July/Sept, 70.00-70.30; Oct/Dec, 73.10-73.20; Jan/March, 75.90-76.10. Sales: Five lots at five tonnes each and 495 lots at 15 tonnes each.

RUBBER PHYSICALS were quiet (All pence per kilo): Spot, 54.00-56.00. Cif's: May, 57.25-57.50; June, 58.00-58.25.

COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): March deleted; May, 1,067-68; July, 1,063-65; Sep, 1,062-64; Nov, 1,060-62; Jan, 1,061-63; March, 1,052-60. Sales: 2,045 lots, including nine options.

ARABICA (officials at 1,645): April, $147.00-50.00; June, $141.00-50.00; Aug, $140.00-47.00; Oct, $140.00-47.00; Dec, $140.00-47.00; Feb, $140.00-47.00; April, $140.00-47.00. Sales: three lots.

COCOA was slightly easier yesterday (£ per metric ton).—March expired; May, 916-917; July, 946-947; Sep, 968-969; Dec, 988-990; March, 1,010-1,011; May, 1,028-1,030. Sales: 1,886 lots.

SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £8.00 lower at £226; the "whites" price was £5.00 lower at £260. Futures (£ per tonne): May, 225.00-25.25; Aug, 221.00-21.25; Oct, 210.00-10.50; Jan, 209.50-10.00; March, 210.25-10.50; May, 210.40-10.50; Aug, 210.00-11.00. Closing Tone Easier. ISA prices (March 30): daily 21.05c; 15-day average, 21.77c.

SOYABEAN MEAL was quiet and slightly easier yesterday (£ per tonne). April, 121.00-24.80; June, 125.50-25.70; Aug, 127.70-28.00; Oct, 130.10-30.20; Dec, 131.50-32.40; Feb, 132.50-34.50; April, 135.00-37.00. Sales: 58 lots.

WOOL.—NZ Crossbreds, No 2 contract, cents per kilo (quiet).—March expired; May, 347-355; Aug, 357-359; Oct, 359-363; Dec, 368-372; Jan, 373-376; March, 381-384; May, 381-385; Aug, 384-388. Sales: 45 lots.

GRAIN (The Baltic).—**WHEAT.**—Canadian western red spring, unquoted. US dark northern spring, No 2, 14 per cent, unquoted. US hard winter, 13½ per cent.—March, £102.25; April, £103.15; May, £103 trans-shipment east coast. EEC, unquoted. English feed, fob, unquoted.

MAIZE.—US.—French: April, £124 trans-shipment east coast. S African white, unquoted. S African yellow.—March-April, £87.00.

BARLEY.—English feed, fob: unquoted. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta): EEC origin.—**BARLEY** was irregular.—May, £99.55; Sept, £95.55; Nov, £98.50; Jan, £103.35. Sales 107 lots. **WHEAT** was steady.—May, £115.80; July, £116.50; Sept, £100.10; Nov, £103.60; Jan, £107.75. Sales 213 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other Milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S. East	£112.00	£111.10	£97.20
S. West	—	£110.40	£100.30
W. Midlands	—	£110.70	£97.90
N. West	—	£111.50	£99.60

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 31: GB: Cattle, 90.65p per kg lw (+0.68). UK: Sheep, 174.4p per kg est dcw (−0.76). GB: Pigs, 72.72p per kg lw (+1.87). England and Wales: Cattle nos down 4.8 per cent, ave price, 89.90p (+1.01). Sheep nos up 6.0 per cent, ave price, 175.65p (−1.35). Pig nos up 6.1 per cent, ave price, 73.29p (+2.27). Scotland: Cattle nos up 10.8 per cent, ave price, 91.72p (−0.40). Sheep nos down 14.2 per cent, ave price, 171.78p (+0.96). Pig nos up 22.5 per cent, ave price, 69.40p (−0.07).

POTATOES (Gafta).—April, £52.90; Nov, £58.50; Feb, £67.20. Sales: 103 lots (of 40 tonnes each).

EGGS (The London Egg Exchange). Home-produced: Whilst a few more eggs are on offer, the market remains steady.
Imported: A similar market exists throughout other EEC countries.
Home-produced market prices (in £ per 120, based on trading packer first hand):

Brown	Wed Thur-Fri	Mon Tues
1's	5.60 to 6.00	5.60 to 6.00
2's	5.20 to 5.40	5.20 to 5.40
3's	5.10 to 5.30	5.10 to 5.20
4's	5.00 to 5.10	4.95 to 5.10
White		
1's	5.60 to 5.70	5.60 to 5.70
2's	5.20 to 5.40	5.20 to 5.50
3's	5.10 to 5.20	5.10 to 5.20
4's	5.00 to 5.10	4.95 to 5.10
5's	4.90 to 5.00	4.90 to 5.00
6's	4.70 to 4.80	4.25 to 4.45
7's	3.50 to 3.60	3.50 to 3.60

All prices quoted are for bulk deliveries in Keyes trays. The above range is a guide to general market conditions and is dependent upon location, quantity and whether delivered or not.

EEC sugar price increase for 1981-82

Brussels, March 31.—The EEC Commission has raised to 8.5 per cent from 7.5 per cent, its proposal for an increase in EEC sugar prices for 1981-82. The proposal is part of a package on prices aimed at reaching a compromise for 1981-82 EEC farm price increases by this week. Other elements of the commission's proposals for sugar remain as they were last month.

Ivory Coast Cocoa: London cocoa traders reported yesterday that a fair volume of business had been done in nearby delivery secondhand Ivory Coast cocoa in the past day or so.

One British operator was said by the traders to be the recipient of much of the cocoa at about £10 under terminal May.

The traders say the inquiries could be as a cover against a short position in Nigerian supplies.—Reuter.

Discount market

Day-to-day credit conditions proved rather more difficult than expected yesterday. A "flat" day was in prospect, but for much of the session no money was appearing and the Bank of England was finally required to give the market small-scale assistance. The bank bought small parcels of Treasury bills, local authority bills and eligible bank bills direct from the houses.

Foreign exchange report

European centres, comforted by the knowledge that shot President Reagan was already on the mend, traded much more calmly yesterday compared with the initial panic in New York overnight.

Selling of the dollar was only modest and largely dictated by lower Eurodollar rates, and the currency ended well off the bottom. Volume was low-level, reflecting end-of-the-month book-squaring.

The pound drifted for much of the session, but ended over 100 points better at $2.2445 ($2.2335) against the dollar, after $2.2520 briefly early on. Trade-weighted sterling fell to 100.1 (100.6), though this was not thought to have taken account of late improvements over the mark, 4.7250 (overnight, 4.7025), the Swiss franc, 4.3150 (4.2900), and the French franc, 11.1450 (11.1100).

Benefiting most from the Polish settlement, the mark advanced to 2.0910 before ending off the top at 2.1055 (2.1100).

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) March 31	Market rates (close) March 31	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.2350-2.2530	$2.2440-2450	0.42-0.52c disc	1.30-1.40c disc
Montreal	$2.6505-6650	$2.6600-6610	1.10-1.20c disc	2.85-3.00c disc
Amsterdam	5.20-24fl	5.21½-22½fl	1¼-¼c prem	3-2c prem
Brussels	77.00-50f	77.10-20f	90-120c disc	130-160c disc
Copenhagen	14.80-89k	14.88-89k	par-160ore disc	515-635ore disc
Dublin	1.2910-3000p	1.2920-2935p	9-22p disc	46-61p disc
Frankfurt	4.69-74m	4.72-73m	¼pf prem-¼pf disc	par-½pf disc
Lisbon	126.50-127.30e	126.90-127.10e	par-75c disc	15-195c disc
Madrid	190.00-192.00p	191.00-20p	45-90c disc	180-235c disc
Milan	2347-57lr	2354-56lr	13½-15½lr disc	43-46lr disc
Oslo	12.00-07k	12.06-07k	85ore prem-45ore d	80ore prem-290ore d
Paris	11.09-15f	11.14-15f	½-1½c disc	3½-4½c disc
Stockholm	10.28-32k	10.29-30k	220-310ore disc	710-805ore disc
Tokyo	470-77y	473½-74½y	2.45-2.00y prem	5.90-5.30y prem
Vienna	33.25-45sch	33.28-33sch	5gro prem-par	10gro prem-par
Zurich	4.26-32f	4.31-32f	2¾-1¾c prem	5¾-4¾c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975 was down 0.5 at 100.1

Other Markets

Australia	1.9115-1.9265
Bahrein	0.8450-0.8480
Finland	9.0870-9.1270
Greece	114.60-115.60
Hongkong	11.8290-11.8680
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.6145-0.6175
Malaysia	5.1080-5.1385
Mexico	52.65-54.15
New Zealand	2.4340-2.4540
Saudi Arabia	7.5050-7.5350
Singapore	4.6725-4.7025
South Africa	1.7845-1.7995

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	100.1	−26.3
US dollar	99.8	−4.2
Canadian dollar	85.9	−17.5
Schilling	116.6	+23.1
Belgian franc	108.2	+9.6
Danish kroner	89.9	−10.1
Deutsche mark	121.7	+40.3
Swiss franc	135.8	+76.1
Guilder	112.9	+15.7
French franc	87.4	−9.4
Lira	59.6	−55.0
Yen	143.8	+39.6

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7350-1.7370
+ Canada	1.1846-1.1849
Netherlands	2.2320-2.3250
Belgium	34.35-34.40
Denmark	6.5900-6.8000
West Germany	2.1050-2.1060
Portugal	56.60-56.75
Spain	85.05-85.15
Italy	1046-1047
Norway	5.3650-5.3750
France	1.9425-1.9475
Sweden	4.5800-4.5850
Japan	211.00-211.20
Austria	14.8950-14.9050
Switzerland	1.9200-1.9230

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8441-0.8444

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 12%

(Last changed 10/3/81)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 12%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 12 Low 11½

Week Fixed: 12

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	11⅝	2 months	11½
3 months	11[17/32]	3 months	11[15/32]

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	11[27/32]-11[25/32]	3 months	12⅝
3 months	11[11/16]-11⅝	4 months	12¼
4 months	11⅝-11½	6 months	12
6 months	11[5/16]-11[3/16]		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	13¾-13½	7 months	12½-12¼
2 months	13¼-13	8 months	12½-12¼
3 months	13-12¾	9 months	12⅝-12⅜
4 months	13-12¾	10 months	12⅝-12⅜
5 months	12⅞-12⅝	11 months	12⅝-12⅜
6 months	12½-12¼	12 months	12½-12¼

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	12⅝-12½	6 months	12⅛-12
3 months	12[9/16]-12[7/16]	12 months	12[1/16]-11[15/16]

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	12⅜	3 months	12⅝
7 days	12¼	6 months	12½
1 month	12⅝	1 year	12[5/16]

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 12 Close 12¾

1 week	12⅝-12½	6 months	12[7/16]-12⅜
1 month	12[11/16]-12⅝	9 months	12⅜-12¼
3 months	12[11/16]-12⅝	12 months	12⅜-12¼

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 13¼ 6 months 12⅞

Finance House Base Rate 13%

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate+	% change adjusted+*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	40.7985	41.6783	+2.16	+1.98	1.53
Danish krone	7.91917	7.99286	+0.93	+0.75	1.64
German D-mark	2.54502	2.54223	−0.11	−0.29	1.14
French franc	5.99526	5.99000	−0.09	−0.27	1.365
Dutch guilder	2.81318	2.81371	+0.02	−0.16	1.515
Irish punt	0.685145	0.697063	+1.74	+1.56	1.665
Italian lira	1262.92	1268.12	+0.41	+0.23	4.11

+ changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 13-14; seven days, 14⅛-14⅜; one month, 14-14⅛; three months, 14[7/16]-14[11/16]; six months, 14[5/16]-14[11/16].

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $514.25 (an ounce); pm, $513.75 close, $507.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $525-528 (£234-235.5)
Sovereigns (new): $128-130 (£57-58).

Wall Street

New York, March 31.—The stock market rose sharply in active trading on relief over President Reagan's improved condition after a gunshot wound, an easing of interest rates and reduced tensions in Poland.

The market was falling yesterday when exchanges halted trading amid confusion over President Reagan's condition after an assassination attempt. Today Mr Reagan was well enough to sign a bill killing an increase in milk price supports.

The Dow Jones industrial average gained 11.71 points and advances paced declines three to one as volume expanded to 51,000,000 shares from 33,300,000 shares in yesterday's abbreviated session.

The Wall Street and Canadian stock prices given in the table relate to Monday's close. Later publication is caused by the change to British Summer Time. This will continue until Eastern Daylight Time begins in the United States.

High technology, oil, brokerage, defence, broadcasting, gaming and rail issues advanced.

Active Holiday Inns rose 1¼ to 28, Caesars World ¾ to 12¼, Bally Manufacturing ¼ to 21¾, Golden Nugget ¾ to 33 and Del E. Webb ¼ to 11.

Fluor Corp added ¾ to 50¾ before a trading halt pending news it would make a $60 a share cash-and-stock bid for St Joe Minerals.

St Joe last traded at 53 on March 25 when trading was suspended by the Securities and Exchange Commission. St Joe previously rejected as inadequate a $45 a share bid from Seagram. Seagram added one to 55.

Engelhard Minerals climbed one to 51¾ before a trading halt pending news that it plans to split into two companies.

Standard Oil (Indiana) rose 1¾ to 73¾. It reported a major gas find in the United Arab Emirates.

US commodities

New York, March 31.—**GOLD** rallied up slightly to close at $514.00 an ounce.—April, $513.00-515.00; May, $519.50; June, $525.00-526.50; Aug, $535.50-539.00; Oct, $547.00; Dec, $561.00-564.00; Feb, $574.50; April, $586.50; June, $598.70; Aug, $611.00; Oct, $623.50; Dec, $635.60; Feb, $647.90.

CHICAGO IMM GOLD.—April, $513.00; June, $526.00-525.00; July, $530.10; Sept, $543.50-544.00; Oct, $547.40; Dec, $562.00; Jan, $566.90; March, $579.00; April, $583.40.

SILVER: April, 1,189.50c; May, 1,201.00c-1,205.00c; June, 1,219.00c; July, 1,233.00c-1,237.00c; Sept, 1,266.00c; Dec, 1,310.00c; Jan, 1,329.00c; March, 1,360.50c; May, 1,392.00c; July, 1,423.50c; Sept, 1,455.00c; Dec, 1,502.50c.

COPPER: April, 85.75c; May, 86.25c-86.50c; June, 87.30c; July, 88.50c-88.60c; Sept, 90.40c; Dec, 93.20c; Jan, 94.10c; Jan, 94.00c; March, 96.20c; May, 98.55c; July, 101.40c; Sept, 103.75c; Dec, 105.60c; Jan, 106.55c.

COTTON: May, 86.05c-86.20c; July, 87.10c-87.00c; Oct, 84.90c-85.15c; Dec, 82.40c-82.60c; March, 83.60c; May, 84.20c-84.70c; July, 84.50c-85.

SUGAR futures made a closing rally of more than 0.65 cent from intraday lows. Spot May ended 0.06 cent higher at 21.21 in against an early low of 20.51 cents. May, 21.15c-21.25c; July, 21.00c; Sept, 21.05c-21.10c; Oct, 20.95c-21.00c; Jan, 20.00c; March, 20.10c; May, 20.10c; July, 20.21c.

COCOA: May, $2,027; July, $2,075; Sept, $2,1[illegible]; Dec, $2,161; March, $2,210; May [illegible].

COFFEE: May, 128.50c-130.00c; July, 127.10c; Sept, 127.10c-127.50c; Dec, 125.00c; [illegible].

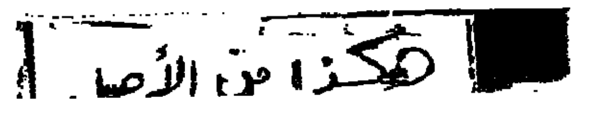
CHICAGO SOYABEANS: May, 768c; July, 796c-795c; Aug, 815c; Sept, 800c; [illegible].

The futures index was 424.67.

The Dow Jones averages—Industrials 1,003.87; transportation; utilities 109.02; 65 stocks 390.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Authorized Unit Trusts			
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers. 72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks 0296-5941			
62.1	47.1	American Growth	59.3	63.7	2.29
47.3	35.1	Capital	45.8	49.1	4.99
57.3	44.0	General	57.1	61.7	4.98
116.6	100.7	Gilt & Fixed Int	107.2	112.8	11.07
37.8	27.3	Income	36.2	38.1	8.98
96.2	91.7	Worldwide	94.7	100.2	6.09
		Cent Board of Fin of The Church of England 77 London Wall, London, EC2N 1DB 01-588 1815			
184.9	144.6	Invest * (34)		182.2	5.78
112.3	101.2	Fixed Int * (34)		108.4	12.58
		Charities Charities Narrower-Range Fund. 15 Moorgate, London, EC2 01-638 4121			
122.1	108.2	Income (34)		119.3	11.73
206.1	161.6	Do Accum (34)		206.1	11.73
		Lloyds Bank Unit Trust Managers. Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, W Sussex 01-623 1288			
71.4	55.8	Balanced	71.4	76.7	4.86
		Scotbits Securities Ltd.			
50.7	35.3	Scotbits	50.1	53.8	4.38
84.9	69.4	Scotshares	84.9	91.2	4.48
96.5	100.0	Money Pen	98.5	101.7	
97.8	100.0	High Yld Pen	97.8	103.1	
126.1	84.7	AMEV/Fram Am	125.8	132.6	
		Irish Life Assurance. 11 Finsbury Sq, London, EC2 01-628 8253			
245.4	226.1	Prop Modules	230.3	242.4	
295.5	269.4	Do Growth (31)	274.4	288.8	
134.0	128.2	Do Series 2	129.6	135.3	
150.2	135.9	Exempt Managed	143.7	151.3	
287.6	257.7	Managed Fnd	267.5	281.6	
115.7	103.7	Do Series 2	107.4	117.0	
88.2	75.9	Blue Chip Fnd	85.8	90.3	
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]



Stock Exchange Prices

Institutional support

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 30. Dealings End, April 9. § Contango Day, April 10. Settlement Day, April 21

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
SHIPPING							
346	178	Brit & Comm	330	+5	17.9	5.4	8.3
338	228	Caledonia Inv	284	+2	17.9	6.3	..
208	116½	Fisher J.	168	..	3.1	1.8	13.8
41	31	Jacobs J. I.	35½	..	3.3	9.3	8.6
148	85½	Ocean Trans	146	..	12.9	8.8	6.2
148½	105	P & O 'Dfd'	148½	+½	10 0	6 7	9 1
MINES							
16½	8½	Anglo Am Coal	£15	+½	80 7	4.0	..
892	485	Anglo Am Corp	674	-1	48 0	7.1	..
58¾	30¾	Ang Am Gold	£40	• -¼	653	16.3	..
56⅝	36⅞	Anglo Am Inv	£41¼	-¼	161	3.9	..
22	13¾	Anglo Transvl	£19	..	144	7.6	..
22	13¾	Do 'A'	£19	..	144	7.6	..
25	13½	Asarco	£19	-¼	60.0	3.0	..
73	43	Berait Tin	58	-1	7.1	12.3	..
12½	4⅝	Blyvoors	£6	-⅛	196	28.2	..
277	119	Bracken Mines	153	• -5	36 8	25 4	..
29	11⅞	Buffelsfontein	£19	-¼	419	22.1	..
350	213	CRA	245	-6	..		
283	137	Charter Cons	243	..	12.0	4.9	..
652	411	Cons Gold Fields	466	+1	33.6	7.2	..
553	337	De Beers 'Dfd'	368	• +2	43 0	11.7	..
13	4	Doornfontein	£9	-⅛	133	14.7	..
22¼	6	Durban Rood	£10¼	-½	261	25.2	..
226	31	East Dagga	98		8.3	8 5	..
17	8¼	F. Driefontein	£12	-⅛	193	15 7	..
18	6½	E. Rand Prop	£7	-¼	210	26 4	..
83	63	El Oro M & Ex	78	-2	2.5	3 2	
350	141	Elsburg Gold	196	-7	44.0	22.5	..
39⅞	18	F S Geduld	£21	-1¼	529	25.2	..
225	100	Geevor Tin	130	..	e ..		..
11⅞	6½	Gencor	£9	-⅛	86.8	10 2	..
670	264	Grootvlei	388	-5	116	29 9	..
234	132	Hamersley	155	..	..	..	..
275	148	Hampton Gold	220	..	3 6b	1 6	..
14½	6¼	Harmony	£7	• -¼	205	26.9	..
47½	21½	Hartebeest	£28¼	-¼	695	24.7	..
38⅞	23	Jo'burg Cons	£30	-⅛	287	9.3	..
899	425	Kinross	586	• -29	104	17.7	..
23	10½	Kloof	£14¼	..	227	15.4	..
PROPERTY							
56	31	Marlborough	56	+1	0.4	0.8	..
113	39	Marler Estates	84	..	2.9	3.4	14.4
108	31	Mountleigh	82	• ..	4.3b	5.2	4.8
128	82	Mucklow A & J	125	..	5 6b	4.4	18.0
630	400	Municipal	630	• ..	10.7	1.7	21 6
206	115	North British	206	+3	4.0	1.9	41 4
165¾	107	Peachey Prop	157	+2	5.7	3.6	23.7
182	116	Prop & Rever	178	+2	3.6	2.0	39.1
172	110	Prop Hldgs	172	+2	4.4b	2.6	..
205	90½	Prop Sec	203	..	2.6b	1.3	56.4
18	7	Raglan Prop	15	..	..	..	68.2
170	95	Regional	170	+7	2.9	1 7	38.5
170	94	Do A	170	+7	2.9	1.7	38.5
328	100	Rosehaugh	318	+2	3.0	0.9	13.6
252	117	Rush & Tomkins	250	+1	5.4	2.1	..
125	91½	Scot Met Props	125		3.9b	3.1	34 7
155	93	Slough Ests	151	+3	3.9	2.6	21.2
368	234½	Stock Conv	368	+3	5 0	1.4	41.7
32	15¾	Town & City	31½	+¼	0.0e	..	..
160	111	Trafford Park	160	+2	9.3	5.8	19 5
345	205	Trust Secs	345	+2	..	..	..
27	14	Webb J.	27	+1½	0.8	2 8	15.1
26¼	21	Wereldhave	£21	..	125	5.9	12.1
72	27½	W'mster & C'ty	72	+1	4.6	6.4	5.7
RUBBER							
130	75	Barlow Hldgs	111	-1	4.3	3.9	..
585	305	Castlefield	450	+5	8.6	1.9	..
57½	39½	Cons Plant	50	.	3.5	7.0	..
198	115	Doranakande	161	.	4 3	2 7	..
938	627	Guthrie Corp	763	..	42.9	5.6	..
232	153	Harrisons Malay	191	..	11.4	6.0	..
61½	45	Highlds & Low	55	+1	2.1	3.9	..
775	485	Hongkong	775	..	60.0	7.7	..
570	363	Killinghall	570	..	20.0	3.5	..
485	390	Ldn Sumatra	360	h -3	11.4b	3.2	..
130	68	Majedie	116	..	3.2	2.8	..
TEA							
248	198	Assam Frontier	199	..	14.3	7.2	..
465	350	Camellia Inv	440	+5	7.1	1.6	..
378	279	McLeod Russel	332	..	21.4	6.5	..
332	263	Moran	272	..	4.6t	1.7	..
158	100	Surmah Valley	101	+1	3.2	3 2	..
227	132¾	Warren Plant	227	+2	14.3b	6.3	..
MISCELLANEOUS							
48	25	Calcutta Elec	28	..	6.8	24 2	..
34½	28½	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£33	..	500	15.2	..
27½	19	Gt Nthn Tele	£24	..	146	6.1	8.8
253	197	Imp Cont Gas	220	+2	10.1	4 6	10.4
185	93	Milford Docks	133	..	9.8	7.4	..
190	88	Nesco Inv	190	..	10.0	5.3	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£32½	..	500	15.4	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Bristol Water 8% Red Pref 1986 († b)	£12
British Aerospace 50p Ord (150)	195+2
Cystic Fibrosis Res'ch Inv Tst £1 (£1)	114
Do 5% Deb 1986 (£100)	£69½
Espley-Tyas Prop Grp 25p Ord (75)	94
Exchequer 12½% 1990 (£95)	£14½+½
Exchequer 12¾% 'B' 1999 (†)	£93½+¼
Lon Merchant Secs 7¾% Cnv Ln 2000-05	£88¼
Mid-Sussex Water 8% Red Pref 1986 (†)	£10¾
Munton Bros 10p Ord (28)	20½
New Darien Oil Trust 25p Ord (100)	93-1
Oil and Gas Production 2c Ord (42)	38
Portals 9½% Cnv 1994-2000 (£)	£124¼
Sutton District Wtr 8% Red Pref 1986 († b)	£13
TR Energy 25p Ord (£1)	99+1
Treasury 12% 1986 († h)	£50½+¼
Treasury 2% Index Linked 1996 (†)	£94¾
West Hampshire Wtr 8% Red Pref 1986 († b)	£10¾

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
Barker Dobson 'A' (2p)	May 29	2½ prem+½
Broken Hill Props (473c)	Apr 30	265 prem-5
IMI (48t)	May 29	12½ prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £60 paid. b £10 paid. f Fully paid. g £40 paid. h £50 paid. i £35 paid.

Residential Property

A new angle on an old water mill

An old water mill with a stream which offers the possibility of fishing from one's own garden is always a popular type of property, although a conversion from scratch can be quite a big operation.

One interesting compromise now on the market is the Mill House and Mill at Midford, near Bath, Avon, where the house itself has been fully converted and modernized, but the adjoining four-storey mill awaits conversion either to further accommodation or into a separate residence.

Many mill sites have been in use for centuries and this one seems to have had a mill since the eleventh century. The house is thought to have been rebuilt in the early eighteenth century, and has been modernized in recent years.

It has two reception rooms, four main bedrooms and two smaller bedrooms and the whole property runs to about one acre.

The Wellow Brook, in which there is good private fishing, flows along the length of the garden. The house is expected to fetch about £100,000, and the mill about £40,000. The Bath office of Cluttons is handling the sale jointly with Crisp Cowley, also of Bath.

Another property with potential for further conversion is The Mythe, near Tewkesbury in Gloucestershire. The house was originally built in about 1720 by the De Lisle family, but was remodelled in about 1812 in the "Strawberry Hill Gothic" style.

It has three reception rooms, five bedrooms and a staff flat. There is a modern kitchen, of course, but also a fully restored and working early Victorian kitchen used by the vendor for classes in traditional cooking.

The whole property covers about 10 acres and the conversion potential lies in a range of outbuildings and a Georgian coach house for which there is planning permission for making into a four-bedroomed house. Offers in the region of £175,000 are being asked through Humberts of London and Tetbury.

A good recent conversion on these lines is The Old Stables, at Stanbury Park, Spencers Wood, near Reading in Berkshire. The stables, which were once part of the Stanbury Park Estate, are thought to have been built in about 1880.

Early features which have been preserved are the arched doorways and windows and exposed timbering. The accommodation includes two main reception rooms downstairs; and on the first floor, reached by a spiral staircase, there is a main bedroom, dressing room and bathroom suite, with five further bedrooms and a second bathroom.

The garage block includes a playroom and a workshop, and the garden runs to about one third of an acre. Offers in the region of £89,000 are being asked through Hampton and Sons.

Records suggest that Eastry Court, at Eastry, near the well-known golf course at Sandwich in Kent, goes back to medieval times or earlier, but the present fine façade was added in about 1720.

The accommodation includes a Great Hall, a fine pine-panelled dining room, a games room, a main bedroom suite and six further bedrooms. The house, which stands in about 1½ acres of lawned garden, has a grade two starred listing. Offers in the region of £275,000 are being asked through Lintott Residential of London.

The Mill House and Mill at Midford, near Bath, Avon.

Barrymores, at Kintbury, near Newbury in Berkshire, is another good family house. Built in about 1802, the date carved on one of the beams in the attic, it was originally a hunting lodge and later enlarged.

It now has four reception rooms, seven bedrooms and three bathrooms, and stands on high ground looking to the south towards the Hampshire Downs.

Gardens and grounds extend to about 32 acres and were formerly used as a stud farm and now for rearing calves and lambs. A price between £180,000 and £200,000 is being asked and the agents are A. W. Neate and Sons of Newbury.

Cloyne house is an unusual property on the edge of the village of Llanmadoc, on the coast of the Gower peninsula, Glamorgan. It was built in the nineteenth century for a parson with a Swiss wife.

At any rate the house has something of a Swiss character, with a steeply pitched roof with large overhanging eaves. It has three reception rooms, including a double drawing room, a main bedroom and bathroom suite, four further bedrooms and another bathroom, plus a utility room and space in the attic which could be converted into extra accommodation. There are gardens of about an acre, partly enclosed in a stone wall and offers over £75,000 are being asked through the Hereford office of Knight Frank and Rutley.

Ridware Hall at Hill Ridware, near Rugeley in Staffordshire, provides a good example of the late Georgian style and is one of the relatively few of its kind in the area.

It was built by the Chadwick family some time in the late eighteenth century and now has a grade two listing.

The accommodation includes a reception hall, four reception rooms, six main bedrooms, two bathrooms and two secondary bedrooms. There is also a self-contained two-roomed annexe.

Outside there is a coach house and stable block which has conversion potential, and the garden and paddock run to about three acres. Offers in the region of £95,000 are being asked through Strutt and Parker.

In contrast is Creekers Barn at Wickhambreaux, near Canterbury in Kent. It was built 20 years ago but incorp[orates] an old barn, the massive [timber] frame of which, together [with] an inglenook fireplace, c[an be] seen in the 28ft long dr[awing] room. Besides this room [there] are two other reception r[ooms,] a study, four bedrooms [and] three bathrooms.

Gardens and grounds [extend] to about two acres and i[nclude] an ornamental pond. The [prop]erty is for sale through Finn and Sons of Sandwi[ch and] Canterbury, at about £130[,000].

The Croft, in Church [Road,] Stowupland, near Stow[market,] Suffolk, is also an inte[resting] property. It is believed [to date] from about the middle [of the] sixteenth century and is [of] lathe and plaster on a lar[ge timber] frame, with a pegtile roof.

It has two main re[ception] rooms, four bedrooms [on the] first floor and two more. Front and rear garden[s are] connected by a drive bes[ide the] house. The one behind i[ncludes] a swimming pool some 27[ft …] with a paved surround. [There is] also a detached summer[house] in an area of lawn bes[ide the] house.

The whole property e[xtends] to just over one acre an[d is for] sale for about £72,500 t[hrough] Abbotts, of Stowmarket.

Geral[…]

هكذا من الأصل

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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice is hereby given of a meeting to be held at the House of Commons on a date not less than 21 days hence to vote upon the resolution "that this Council declares that the purposes of building society reform would be better achieved by the dissolution of the H.O.M.E. as presently constituted and the formation of a campaign committee of the same name".
C. SELWOOD, Hon. Sec. H.O.M.E.

In the Matter of PAN-ARAB PUBLICATIONS LTD. by order of the High Court dated the 26th Sept. 1980 Neville Eckley F.C.A. of 10 Stanley Hill, South Croydon, has been appointed liquidator of the above-named company without a committee of inspection.
Dated 24-3-1981.

TRANSFER BOOKS

CANADIAN PACIFIC LIMITED (Incorporated in Canada) ONTARIO & QUEBEC RAILWAY COMPANY 5% DEBENTURE STOCK

In preparation for the payment of the half-yearly interest payable on June 1 next, the Debenture Stock Transfer Books will be closed at 3.30 p.m. on May 1 and will be re-opened on June 2.
W. E. REEVE, Deputy Secretary.
Finsbury Square, London, EC2A 1DD.
April 1, 1981.

DECLARATION OF DIVIDENDS

ROBECO

ROTTERDAMSCH BELEGGINGSCONSORTIUM N.V.

Robeco N.V. announce a cash dividend of Fls. 11.00 per share of Fls. 50 (Fls. 1.10 per Sub-share of Fls. 5) for the financial year 1980.

BEARER SHARE WARRANTS WITH COUPONS ATTACHED

Coupons No. 79 accompanied by the appropriate claim form should be presented to the Company's Paying Agents, National Westminster Bank Limited, Stock Office Services, 5th Floor, Drapers Gardens, 12 Throgmorton Avenue, London, E.C.2. on business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Claims must be submitted by personal presentation. Postal applications cannot be accepted.

The dividend will be payable at Fls. 11.00 per share, less tax as appropriate, as from 9th April 1981, against surrender of Coupon No. 79. Payment will be made in sterling.

Coupons presented by, or on behalf of, shareholders who are subject to United Kingdom Income Tax will be subject to Netherlands Dividend Tax at the rate of 15% and United Kingdom Income Tax at the rate of 5% on the gross dividend. Forms 92 VK will not be required in respect of claims lodged within six months of the payment date. Coupons No. 79 presented on or after 9th October 1981, must be accompanied by a completed Form 92 VK duly certified by the individual shareholder's Inspector of Taxes.

If the coupons presented are accompanied by the appropriate certified Forms 92 supplied by residents of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, The Federal Republic of Germany, Indonesia (reduction to 20% only), The Republic of Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, The Netherlands Antilles, Norway, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Surinam, Sweden, or the United States of America, Netherlands Dividend Tax amounting to 15% will be withheld. Forms 92 VK must be submitted in duplicate, signed by the applicant, but need not be authorised by the U.S. Inspector of Taxes.

Residents of Switzerland can apply for a partial refund by submitting a Form R-NL 1 to the Dutch Fiscal Authorities. This form can be obtained from the Eidgenössische Steuerverwaltung, Bern. Reduction to 15%.

Residents of Italy can have full refund by submitting Form 92 IT, certified by their local tax inspector, to the Inspector of Corporation Tax, Kabaul Straat, 2-4 Amsterdam, with the relevant dividend note. In all other cases Netherlands Dividend Tax at 25% will be deducted from the gross dividend.

Exemption from United Kingdom Income Tax may be claimed by lodging the usual affidavit certifying non-residence in the United Kingdom.

SUB-SHARE CERTIFICATES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK (NOMINEES) LIMITED

United Kingdom Banks and members of the Stock Exchange should lodge claims together with the appropriate claim form, with the National Westminster Bank Limited, Stock Office Services, 5th Floor, Drapers Gardens, 12 Throgmorton Avenue, London, E.C.2.

Payment of the dividend must be marked on the reverse side of the certificate in accordance with "Marking Name" procedure.

All other claimants must complete the appropriate listing form and present at the above address together with the relevant certificates for marking by the National Westminster Bank Limited.

These claims must be submitted by personal presentation. Postal applications cannot be accepted.

Income Tax requirements will be as shown above for Bearer Share Warrants.

The Record Date is 31st March 1981.

The Dutch Currency will be converted on 31st March 1981. Exchange and Marking Name commission will be deducted. Payment will be made by National Provincial Bank (Nominees) Limited on or after 9th April 1981.

A further announcement will be made shortly giving full sterling details of the Dividend.
1 April 1981.

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Applications are invited for the above post, the appointment to commence on September 1, 1981, for a period of three years.

The successful candidate will be required to teach courses in the social psychology of classroom behaviour, one of which is a major component of an inservice B Ed. programme for experienced teachers from overseas. The candidate will be expected to conduct research and undertake such other teaching and administration as is deemed appropriate.

Applicants should be qualified in both social psychology and education. Relevant experience of and interest in education overseas are desirable.

Salary on the Lecturer scale £6070-£11,980 according to age, qualifications and experience. The appointment carries membership of USS.

Further information can be obtained from, and applications with the names and addresses of three referees should be sent to the Registrar and Secretary, University of Bristol, Senate House, Tyndall Avenue, Bristol BS8 1TH, quoting reference 1PB. Applications close on Friday, 24th April, 1981.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

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(Postdoctoral: SRC funded in **ORGANIC CHEMISTRY**

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PUBLIC NOTICES

THE ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY - SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING of members of THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY will be held in Bible House, 146 Queen Victoria Street, London, EC4, on Tuesday, 5 May, 1981 at 6.15 p.m., to receive the Annual Report and to adopt the audited Income and Expenditure Accounts for the year ended 31 December, 1980, to elect the treasurer and thirty-six lay members of the General Committee, and to appoint the Auditors.

Nominations for election to the General Committee must be received in writing by Friday, 17 April. Only members of the Society may nominate, and candidates for election must also be members of the Society.

PASTORAL MEASURE 1968
The Church Commissioners have prepared draft pastoral schemes providing for declaring redundant the parish church of the parish of St. Wulstan, Selly Oak (Birmingham diocese); and the chapel of ease of All Saints, Plymouth (Exeter diocese). Copies of the draft schemes may be obtained from the Commissioners at 1 Millbank, London, SW1.

EX-SERVICE FELLOWSHIP CENTRES
"In accordance with Rule 4(a) of the Constitution of the Ex-Service Fellowship Centres notice is hereby given that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held in the Council Chamber of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea (by kind permission of the Governor) on Wednesday, 29th April, 1981 at 3 pm. The President of the Fellowship, General Sir Antony Read, GCB CBE DSO MC, will preside."

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RENTALS

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RENTALS

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Charming, tastefully furnished flat with lovely central patio. 2 dble bedrooms both with bath en-suite, s/p clks, large recep room, fitted kit brkfst area. C.h. £275 p.w.

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ITALIAN OIL COMPANY EXECUTIVE requires Chelsea or S. Kensington flat, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms essential. £200 p.w. Church Bros 439 0589/7953.

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CHELSEA, KNIGHTSBRIDGE, BELGRAVIA. — Luxury houses and flats available for long or short lets. Ring for current list. Flatland, 828 3651.

CANADIAN GOVERMENT OFFICIAL requires 2/3 bedroom flat in central London. £200 p.w. Church Bros. 439 0589/7953.

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MODERN HARPSICHORD in mahogany case. Single manual H.12, keyboard 5 octaves G-G Compass 5 octaves G-G 8ft x 4ft x buss (harp) to 8ft., length 6ft. 3in or 109cms. Made by Morley of London. Excellent condition. £1,000. Inquiries to Mrs Kempley, 32 Holly Road, Farnborough, Hants. (0252) 42087.

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SET OF 12 turn of the century hand painted oak dining chairs. All Carvers. Excl cond. £1,500 o.n.o. (private sale). 01-229 8811.

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(continued on page 28)

La Crème De La Crème

–Managerial–Administrative–Secretarial–Personal Assistants–

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c. £6500

As Secretary to the Financial Director of Selfridges, you will be closely involved in the fascinating, occasionally hectic, task of managing the company's £100 million turnover. In addition to undertaking the full range of Secretary/PA duties, it is likely that you will play an increasing part in departmental administration as your experience grows.

Probably aged at least 25, you must have substantial experience as a senior secretary and proven administrative ability. First class typing and shorthand are essential and, clearly, an interest in 'money matters' would be an advantage.

In addition to a starting salary of around £6500, Selfridges offer a valuable range of benefits including shopping discounts, subsidised meals, 4 weeks annual holiday, medical and dental facilities, interest free season ticket loans, and more.

If you would like to join the exciting world of Selfridges, one of the world's top department stores, please write to Miss M. C. Schroeder at Selfridges Limited, Oxford Street, London W1A 1AB.

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The Job
To service the preparation and production of reports which detail advertising plans, schedules and copy. Immaculate presentation required.

The Approach
The successful applicant need understand and contribute to effective running of an open plan West End office and establish a position of responsibility in what will become a team of seven.
The best possible materials and machinery are available, introduction of "word processing" equipment can be considered.
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The Rewards
A starting salary negotiable around £6,000 to be reviewed 1st June and at six monthly intervals thereafter. A bonus incentive scheme is in operation.
The facilities to forge a position of authority in an expanding area of the "advertising services" business.
The prospect of a role of genuine interest and ambition within one of the fastest growing, hardest charging, young agencies in the West End.

Write in the first instance to Kate Parsons,
Collyer and Company Ltd.,
44 Conduit Street,
London, W.1.

FIRST-CLASS SECRETARY

We are an international sales organisation looking for a Secretary to work in our new luxury head office in Harrow. The successful candidate will have good secretarial skills, a sense of humour, an ability to work on their own initiative and be able to communicate with customers in a friendly manner.

In addition to excellent salary, we offer:

- ★ Luncheon vouchers of £5 per week.
- ★ Free buffet lunch.
- ★ Four weeks' holiday per annum.
- ★ Interest-free season ticket loan.

If you would like to join our young, successful team, please write, enclosing c.v., to:

PHILIP STEPHENS
THE TUPPERWARE COMPANY
43 UPPER GROSVENOR STREET
LONDON
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Opportunity for promotion to position of Trainee Personal Assistant in the medium term

Receptionist/Telephonist

CITY £3,500-£5,000

A vacancy exists for a well spoken presentable Receptionist with typing skills, aged from 17 years to look after a small busy reception area. Duties will include the reception of visitors and the operation of a PMBX 4x18 switchboard and memory typewriter. A high degree of enthusiasm, organisational ability and discretion are essential. A full training with a view to promotion to the position of Trainee Personal Assistant in the medium term will be provided. Initial remuneration negotiable, £3,500-£5,000 including profit sharing incentive scheme and after one year's service, free BUPA, free Life Assurance and free Permanent Sickness schemes.

Applications to Mrs Avril Clifton on 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576

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£6,500

The Group Solicitor/Company Secretary of a substantial public company with a small friendly head office off The Strand (near the Law Courts) requires an intelligent and capable secretary. Both shorthand and audio work is involved. Legal experience is not required but would be helpful. A logical mind with an aptitude for the latest equipment/techniques (including word processing for which full training will be provided) coupled with an ability to handle administrative responsibilities is essential. 4 weeks holiday, non-contributory pension scheme and bonus scheme. Age preferred 25/35.

An interesting and rewarding opportunity for someone with a sound secretarial background wishing to broaden his/her interests in a permanent position with good long-term prospects.

Tel. Angela 01-836 9261

P.A. SEC.

£7,000-£8,000 + +

This professional firm with prestige city offices require a Senior Secretary to fulfil an exciting P.A. function for their Senior Partner. Full driving licence and excellent secretarial skills (110/60) essential. Terrific range of perks and benefits on offer. The person appointed should be numerate and be prepared to be totally committed as job may involve occasional travel and could demand working outside normal office hours.

£6,500 + PACKAGE

We need a Secretary to assist the M.D. of this prestigious international organisation with head offices based in W.1. Preferred age range 23-29 with first class secretarial skills. Excellent perks and benefits package available including a bonus system.

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A flexible PA/Secretary is needed to help establish this city-based U.K. subsidiary of this American Finance Company. In addition to being responsible for the administration of this small office, you will also be expected to assist in the marketing and dealing aspects of the business. Aged 25-40. Speeds 100/60.

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needs

LIVELY FIRST-CLASS ASSISTANT

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For further information please contact Miss J. Royle on 01-839 1447 between 2.30 and 6.30 p.m. today or tomorrow, or apply directly with c.v. to Special Projects Group, Security Pacific International Leasing (Europe), Inc., 6 Suffolk Street, London SW1Y 4HG.

No agencies

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Contact Philippa Lubomirski, 01-623 2291.

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c. £6,000 E.C.1

to set up a new personnel/training service for the 90+ staff of Anglo Leasing Limited, at their modern Head Office close to Farringdon Tube.

Duties will cover recruitment, induction and on-going training of all staff, plus various interesting administrative activities. Personnel and training skills will be necessary, ideally including knowledge of legal responsibilities. This new appointment offers real scope for innovation within the friendly atmosphere of this major UK leasing finance house.

Salary c. £6,000 plus free lunches in staff restaurant, season ticket loan, bonus, flexitime and pension scheme.

Write with full details to: David Carrington, Executive Manager—Administration, Anglo Leasing Limited, 2 Clerkenwell Green, London EC1R 0DH.

PA to Chairman of international consultancy

based at Blackfriars

REQUIREMENTS
Experienced, competent secretary, preferably with R.S.A. Stage III typing.
Ability to act on own initiative after period of familiarisation, including key role during frequent absence of Chairman.
Good education.
Effective organiser.
Capability of handling consultancy clients and contacts at all levels in relaxed, confident manner.
Age at least 28.

STARTING SALARY
At least £6,250. Higher salary will be considered if appropriate. Will be reviewed at an early date in the light of progress and responsibility.

Please write with details of age, qualifications and experience to
Box 2784 F, The Times.

ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR OF HOUSING TRUST IN WC1

Salary c £6,250

Varied work with young and enthusiastic staff requiring initiative and involvement at Trustee and Senior Management level. Good secretarial skills and knowledge of English essential, although you will have part-time secretarial assistance. Interest in housing preferable, although previous experience not necessary. Non-contributory pension; flexi-time; 22 days' holiday.

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The Director, The Samuel Lewis Housing Trust,
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Secretary PA

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The Acting Registrar, one of the top three executives, requires a first class PA to provide him with a full secretarial service plus assistance in the PA role.

If you have first class skills which include audio (much of the transcription is from tape), a good general education combined with previous experience at a comparable level we can offer you a challenging and interesting job.

Salary c.£6000-£6250 pa + 20 days annual leave + pension and sick pay schemes + LVs in West End offices.

Contact: John Baker 01-580 6334.

GNC The General Nursing Council for England and Wales

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£5,250

Partner in small firm of Chartered Surveyors seeks an experienced Secretary, mid 20s. Minimum 60 w.p.m. An interesting and demanding position. Delightful period offices (own room), adjacent Chancery Lane Tube station. 4 weeks' holiday, free luncheon, and season ticket loan.

If interested, please contact Juliette, 01-242 4321

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We are a public company and have two vacancies in our Head Office in Holborn. The one position, as Secretary to the Managing Director and Finance Director, calls for an experienced person with excellent shorthand and typing speeds with an ability to work under pressure. The second position requires a person with similar skills but who is also prepared to assume administrative responsibilities as secretary to the Company Secretary. For both positions a driving licence is required and the preferred age is 35 to 45.

Please telephone 405 0812

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Duties will include private secretarial/PA to a top Executive and previous experience at Director level plus top secretarial skills is essential. Some travel abroad with boss so domestic arrangements must be flexible. Salary c. £7,000 p.a. plus free travel. Luxury office. Bonus scheme plus other benefits.

Telephone Veronica Lapa.
Centacom Staff Agy
937 6525

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£7,000

Even banks have to sell their services. The Marketing Director of a large financial institution needs a Secretary/PA to help him do just that world-wide. Banking or similar background ideal.

Directors' Secretaries
Tel: 01-629 9323

OIL COMPANY TO £6,300

Be a right hand to a busy Senior Manager who requires enthusiasm, initiative and the ability to undertake your own correspondence in a vibrant organisation, where there is plenty of scope for advancement. You will be in your early 20s, with good shorthand and typing and have a capacity for hard work. Close to Tube in Central London.

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and now . . . Lots of pressure, hours to fit the work to be done (and that's plenty). A demanding commodity broking boss. It's a job for someone really bright with good shorthand, audio and typing speeds who can compose letters without dictation and cope with a lot of telex. In a nutshell lots of demanding work. Preferred age 25 to 35. Ring Margaret Mannell.

SENIOR SECRETARIES
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01-499 0092 : 01-493 5907

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COMPUTER SERVICES COMPANY

A vacancy has occurred for a graduate with some commercial experience and typing ability to work in association with the Marketing Director of a successful U.K. computer services company.

The position involves press activity, liaison with the Graphic Designer and between marketing personnel of the 3 operating companies, the production of company newsletters and brochures, year book up-dates and routine admin tasks.

Previous experience of graphics and advertising within a similar field would be an advantage. Salary c. £5,500.

Please reply in writing enclosing a curriculum vitae to Maxine Farrall, Hoskyns Group Ltd., Africa House, 64/78 Kingsway, London WC2B 6BL.

SEC./P.A. SHIPPING

£6,500

Opportunity to progress with recently launched, already highly successful small international Shipping company seeking bright, proficient Sec/PA, sh/audio, 25+. Provided your career history proves your worth and that you are adaptable and willing to turn your hand to everything, whilst learning about the business, prospects for the future are endless.

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c£7,500

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Small friendly firm require smart Secretary/Receptionist (22+). Some negotiating so must be able to work on own initiative, hours 9.30-5.30. £4,500+ neg.

Ring Coward and Co.
834 1957

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Capable shorthand typist required urgently for interesting and varied work with Social Democrat MP. Salary and terms negotiable, write to:

Mrs. M. G. Smart,
House of Commons,
London, S.W.1

TALKING AT £7,500 p.a.!

And looking for someone 30s-early 40s, with American stock broking experience who is numerate, able to deal efficiently with P.A.Y.E. and the overall Admin. of a small office. Additionally typing and a little shorthand plus telex are needed.

If qualifications should include being registered on the New York Stock Exchange salary expectations could be even higher! Please telephone for appointment.

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Call Jan De Main or Stella Telfer at
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Experienced medical secretary with knowledge of medical terminology required three days per week. The job is varied and you will need to have shorthand and some audio (I.B.M. Golfball). Excellent salary.

Please telephone 935 4101 (after 10 a.m.)

ONLY THE BEST WILL DO

TO £10,000

Top flight, dynamic, career minded PA sought by this commodity broker who demands only the best of himself and others. Ideal age 25-35, with top sh/sec skills and fast telex. Previous commodity experience desirable and ambition and ability to work hard in this fast-moving world essential. Please ring Fiona McClaren.

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up to £8,500

We have great opportunities for young secretaries with a good command of German. Lots of variety and responsibility at Managing Director level. Shorthand/typing 100/50, preferred age 23-40. Please ring Edith Cragg

SENIOR SECRETARIES
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173 New Bond Street W1Y 9PB
01-499 0092 : 01-493 5907

£6,500 neg.

American Executive of rapidly expanding Co. involved in North Sea oil, seeks top level P.A./Secretary with initiative and enthusiasm. Half-yearly salary review.

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£5,000 plus perks

Spirit export company offers a good Secretary with some experience an interesting job in super surroundings. Lots of translation and scope for involvement.

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NW1

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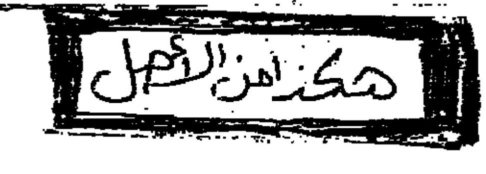

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

PERSONAL CHOICE

Patrick Newell in Southern Television's new comedy series for children Whizzkids' Guide (ITV, 4.20)

● Paramount, I think, among the many virtues in Elaine Morgan's screenplays for The Life and Times of David Lloyd George (BBC 2, 9.25) is the way she continues to make complex political issues stunningly clear to the layman. It comes as no surprise, therefore, to learn that the adviser to the series is A J P Taylor, a celebrated unraveller of historical knots. Tonight's episode — the fifth — has Lloyd George demoted from Chancellor to munitions overlord, blazing away at obstructionists like Kitchener who are keeping the troops short of weapons on the Great War battlefronts.

● Are We Being Served? (BBC 1, 10.20) is That's Life without jokes, without The Teeth, but still with bite. Customers with a grouse against monopolistic public corporations (tonight, it's the telephone service) take up their grievance direct with the top men. It is probable that journalists, trained to prevent their catch wriggling off the hook, might have used their gaffs to better effect than some of tonight's complainants manage to do, but there's a wealth of genuine resentment in these unprofessional inquisitors that makes them surprisingly resilient. Next for the high jump: British Gas and British Rail.

● I wish there was a more original way of describing tonight's final of the chess tournament The Master Game (BBC 2, 6.55) than by saying that it is a David and Goliath affair. But that is what it is. Twirling the stones in his catapult is 15-year-old Nigel Short, seeded last in the tournament on current rankings. Towering above him is Tony Miles, one of Europe's strongest Grand Masters, who has won all of his last seven tournaments. The BBC, in its publicity, talks about tonight's deciding game as a sudden death play-off. I think we are all being a bit over-dramatic and physical. This is a hushed conflict between brains — and how brilliantly the BBC has been chronicling it.

● In a display of magnanimity that is almost unnerving, the BBC has given Kaleidoscope (Radio 4, 9.15) extra time tonight for its special edition devoted to the English Stage Company's 25 years of occupation at the Royal Court . . . There can be no guarantee that the day will not be observed in unscheduled ways too, but formal recognition that this is April Fool's Day is to be found in Woman's Hour (Radio 4, 2.02), in Tony Barnfield's item on practical jokers.

● The day's musical highlights on radio: Berlioz's Dramatic Symphony: Romeo and Juliet, live from the Royal Albert Hall (Radio 3, 7.30), with the BBC SO under Rozhdestvensky, and Sarah Walker, Robert Tear and Jules Bastin as the soloists . . . No harm at all in extending our knowledge of contemporary music geographically as well as structurally by listening to the work of three Australian composers on Radio 3 at 10.00 pm — Richard Meale, Ross Edwards and Barry Conyngham. The performances are by the Sydney and Melbourne symphony orchestras.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO; ★ BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University. Water for Oxford; 7.05 Crust and mantle; 7.30 Minimum cost flows. Closedown at 7.55.

9.35 For Schools, Colleges: Maths File; 9.58 Let's Go Outdoors; 10.12 Words and Pictures; 10.30 Japan: the Crowded Islands; 11.02 Everyday Maths; 11.40 Resource Unit: English. Closedown at 12.00.

12.45 pm News; 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: The return of cookery expert Michael Smith. He will concentrate on fish dishes; 1.45 Trumpton: The Greenhouse.

2.01 For Schools, Colleges: Indian dancing, by Rati Kartiugesu; 2.18 India: the Brightest Jewel (history); 2.40 Read On! Top of the Books. Closedown at 3.00.

3.55 Play School: John Burningham's story Mr Gumpy's Motor Car. Also on BBC 2 at 11.00.

4.20 Winsome Witch: cartoon. Have Broom, Will Travel.

4.25 Jackanory: Sheila Steafel reads part 3 of Forrest Wilson's Super Gran; 4.40 Take Hart: Children learn from Tony Hart how to make pictures.

5.00 John Craven's Newsround: for the younger viewer, but not exclusively so.

5.05 The Bagthorpe Saga: Episode 2 of Helen Cresswell's story of an eccentric family. Today: more about Jack's visions; 5.35 Fred Basset: Lending a Hand.

5.40 News: with Peter Woods; 5.55 Regional news magazines. All regions unite at 6.20 for Nationwide.

6.55 Triangle: Final instalment of Sue Lake's serial about a passenger ferry. It has been a sorry enterprise — unconvincing from first to last. Its only virtue has been its photography of ship and sea.

7.20 Film: Take the High Ground (1954) Korea war drama, with Richard Widmark as the tough sergeant who has to knock a group of raw recruits into shape. With Karl Malden, Elaine Stewart, Russ Tamblyn. Director: Richard Brooke.

9.00 A Party Political Broadcast: By the Conservative Party. Can also be seen on BBC 2, at 10.40, and on ITV at 10.00.

9.05 News: with Richard Baker.

9.30 Sportsnight: Boxing, motor racing and cycling. Coverage of last night's McKenzie v Mittee fight at Wembley for the Light-Welterweight Championship of Great Britain; also highlights from the Brazilian Grand Prix staged in Rio de Janeiro earlier in the week, and a preview of the Grand National by Julian Wilson.

10.20 Are We Being Served? New series begins. Consumers come face to face with the people at the top of some of our public corporations. Tonight: the telephone business. Coming shortly: British Gas and British Rail (see Personal Choice).

10.50 News headlines.

11.00 Parkinson: A second showing of the programme in which Michael Parkinson talked to the actress Lilli Palmer, the violinist Itzhak Perlman, and the harmonica player Larry Adler.

12.05 am Weather forecast.

Regions

BBC1 VARIATIONS: BBC Cymru/Wales: [illegible] 5.55-6.20 pm Regional news magazines. 12.10 am Close.

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: Man-powered aircraft (3); 7.05 Using university libraries; 7.30 Modelling a gas. Closedown at 7.55.

10.20 Gharbar: For Asian women. Sewing, cooking, music, and a story for children. Closedown at 10.45.

11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1, 3.55 (the story of Mr Gumpy's Motor Car. With Carol Chell and Ben Thomas). Closedown at 11.25.

4.50 pm Open University: History of mathematics; 5.15 The National Theatre; 5.40 Non-Euclidean geometry; 6.30 Looking at poems.

6.55 The Master Game: It's the final of the BBC chess tournament for the Master Game Trophy. Fifteen-year-old Nigel Short, from Atherton, Lancashire, plays Tony Miles, who has won all of his last seven tournaments. Commentary and analysis of the game from Bill Hartston, the International Chess Master. (See Personal Choice.)

7.25 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.

7.35 Open Door: The Oldest Profession. A film made by members of the Environmental Health Officers Association. They investigate everything from fleas in the bedroom and mice under the kitchen sink to cigarette ends in a loaf of bread. Filmed in the Cambridge area.

8.05 Muggeridge: Ancient and Modern. Sixth film in the series of biographical films. The period covered tonight is from 1967 to 1971. It was during these years that Mr Muggeridge's work on television took on its distinctly religious character. His films included Pilgrimage to Lourdes.

9.00 Rhoda: Return of the American TV comedy series, with Valerie Harper as the abrasive New York Jewish girl. Tonight: a man with a mother complex — and what Rhoda and her sister (Julie Kavner) do about it.

9.25 The Life and Times of David Lloyd George: Episode 5 of Elaine Morgan's retelling of the Welsh politician's public and domestic life story. Tonight: the outbreak of war, with War Cabinet rows. (See Personal Choice).

10.25 Cartoons: Two animated comedies made by Tex Avery. They are Who Killed Who?, and What Price Fleadom?

10.40 A Party Political Broadcast: By the Conservative Party. Already seen on BBC 1, at 9.00.

10.45 Newsnight: All the day's news, plus amplifying news features. Linda Alexander reads the bulletins. Ends at 11.35.

Thames

9.30 am For Schools: Easter customs and events; 9.50 My World: Shapes; 10.10 A Victorian doctor's life; 10.35 Guitars and guitarists; 11.05 At the glass factory; 11.17 Trip down the Rhine; 11.34 Local newspaper reporters.

12.00 The Munch Bunch: Talking and walking fruit and vegetables; 12.10 pm Rainbow: A story about Tat the Cat, read by Geoffrey.

12.30 About Britain: SS Great Britain — Exactly as it was: A progress report by Wynford Vaughan Thomas on the restoration of Brunel's great ship, launched in 1843, and now open to public view.

1.00 News; 1.20 Thames News.

1.30 Crown Court: The jury decides in the case of a widow (Wanda Ventham) accused of assaulting and blackmailing another widow (Zena Walker).

2.00 After Noon Plus: We learn the names of the winners of the Design-a-Sweater competition.

2.45 Project UFO: American-made series about Things from Outer Space. Today: the strange Morse code messages.

3.45 Food, Wine and Friends: Half an hour for the gourmet, presented by Robert Carrier. His guest is the Italian film actress Valentina Cortese. Mr Carrier also makes some paté and visits Beaujolais.

4.15 Watch It! A Dr Snuggles story; 4.20 Whizzkids Guide: First in a new comedy series about school life. With Arthur Mullard, Kenneth Williams, Rita Webb. 4.45 Echoes of Louisa: New children's serial, set in the last century and the twentieth. With Bernard Horsfall and Amanda Kirby as the Victorian teenager whose jealousy precipitates a tragedy that has long-term effects.

5.15 Mr and Mrs: Matrimonial Quiz Game. With Derek Batey. 5.45 News; 6.00 Thames News.

6.25 Help! A new group, formed to help sufferers from SDH, an uncomfortable muscular disorder.

6.35 Crossroads: Why Jill is upset by Eric, and what Chris hears about Barbara. The motel saga continues.

7.00 Coronation Street: Earlier than usual. More about Mike and Deirdre's tiff, and about the rubbish tip search.

7.30 League Cup Final Replay: Liverpool and West Ham resume their battle. Live coverage of the decisive game from Villa Park, Birmingham. Brian Moore is the commentator. Also, possibly, highlights of the Sugar Ray Leonard v Larry Bonds fight in New York.

10.00 A Party Political Broadcast: By the Conservative Party.

10.05 News from ITN.

10.35 The Hollywood Academy Awards: With a recorded message from President Reagan, and songs from Dolly Parton and Dionne Warwick. The MC is Johnny Carson.

12.20 am Close: Lord Rawlinson reads Wordsworth's poem Upon Westminster Bridge.

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Mid-Week.
10.00 News.
10.02 Gardeners' Question Time.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 The Diaries of Edith Douglass (2).†
11.00 News.
11.05 Baker's Dozen.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Serial: A Murder of Quality, by John Le Carré (1).
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.35 Party Political Broadcast (Conservative).
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour. (See Choice).
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: Two Brothers, by R. E. T. Lamb.†
3.50 Zoo Talk.
4.00 Choral Evensong.†
4.45 A Study in Scarlet (3).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 My Music.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Richard Stilgoe's Grand National Traffic Jam Show.†
7.45 Tuesday Call (r).
8.30 File on 4.
9.15 Kaleidoscope. (Personal Choice).
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.30 The Lord of the Rings (4).†
11.00 Anna of the Five Towns (13).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping Forecast.

VHF
9.05 am Schools: Advanced Studies — English; Radio Thin King (10); La France aujourd'hui: — French IV (10); Poetry Corner; Music Makers; Something to Think About.
10.30 Listen with Mother.
10.45-12.00 Schools: The Music Box; By the People, For the People; Casebook '81; Quest.
2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: Movement and Drama I; Books, Plays, Poems; Nature.
11.00 Study on 4: Digame! (Suplemento 2).
11.30-12.10 am Open University.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Fayrfax, Handel, Frescobaldi, Bach.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Milhaud, Ives, Haydn (Sym 79).†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Delius.†
9.45 Week's Organ: Boyce, Walond, Stanley, S. Wesley.†
10.15 Songs: Finzi, Diack, Murrill, Hely-Hutchinson.†
10.55 Piano Trio: Beethoven (op97).†
11.40 BBC Scottish SO/Handley, pt 1: Bliss, Delius.†
12.15 pm Talk: The Ones That Got Away.†
12.20 BBCSSO, pt 2: Vaughan Williams (Sym 3).†
1.00 pm News.
1.05 Piano Duo (live from Broadcasting House): Martinu, Mendelssohn, Grainger.†
2.00 Music Weekly.†
2.55 Cricket: West Indies v England.
5.05 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Story: Novitiate, by N. M. Carroll.
7.30 Dramatic Symphony: Romeo and Juliet, by Berlioz (BBCSO etc/Rozhdestvensky — live from Albert Hall, pts 1 and 2).† (See Choice).
8.25 Six Continents.
8.45 Romeo and Juliet, pt 3.†
9.45 Story: The Snailwatcher, by Patricia Highsmith.
10.00 Music in Our Time: Meale, R. Edwards, Conyngham.† (See Choice).
11.00 News.
11.05 Record: Satie.†
11.15-11.30 Cricket.

VHF
5.55 am-6.55 Open University.
2.55 pm A Minstrel's Way.†
3.35 BBC Northern SO/Downes.
4.55 News.
5.00-5.05 Mainly for Pleasure.† (mw joins at 5.05).
11.15 pm-12.35 am Open University: Making Sense of Society; Biotechnic Community Revisited; Transport in Europe in 1848; The Balby Street Kids.

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilbey.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 David Hamilton.† 2.00 pm Ed Stewart.† 4.00 Much More Music.† 6.00 John Dunn.† 7.30 Football League Cup. 9.55 The Songwriters.† 10.00 Test Match. 10.30 Robin Day. 11.00 Brian Matthew. 2.00 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Steve Wright. 4.30 Peter Powell. 7.00 Mailbag. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.00 John Peel.† 12.00 Close.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 8.00 pm Listen to the Band.† 8.30 Alan Dell.† 9.00 The Songwriters.† 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648kHz, 463m) at the following times GMT: [illegible] 1.30 Little Dorrit 2.15 Report on Religion. 2.30 The King's Collection 3.00 Radio Newsreel 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News 4.09 Commentary 4.15 Moments of Being. 4.45 The World Today 5.00 World News 5.00 Book Choice 5.15 Listening Post 5.30 Take One 8.00 World News 8.09 Twenty-four Hours 9.15 Play it My Way 9.45 Four Hands in Harmony 10.00 World News 10.09 The World Today 10.25 Book Choice 10.30 Financial News 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Round-up 11.00 World News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 A House for Mr Biswas 11.30 Top Twenty 12.00 World News 12.09 am News about Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 Listening Post 12.45 Famous Opera Houses 1.15 Outlook 1.45 Words Made Flesh 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Network UK 2.30 Assignment 3.00 World News 3.09 News about Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 John Peel 4.00 Newsdesk 5.45 The World Today

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service; med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Scottish

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Certain Women. 5.15 Pet Subject. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Toye's Talk Back. 6.30-7.00 Weir's Way. 10.35 Billie Jo Spears. 11.05 Scotsport. 12.05 am-12.10 Late Call.

Yorkshire

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 It's a Musical World. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00-6.35 Calendar.

Ulster

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45-3.45 It's a Musical World. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening Ulster. 10.35 New Avengers. 11.35-11.45 Bedtime

Border

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Love Boat. 5.15-5.45 University Challenge 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 12.20 am-12.23 News.

Anglia

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.45-3.45 Story Hour 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 12.20 am Big Question

ATV

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Sky in Concert. 5.15-5.45 Survival. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30-7.00 ATV Today 10.35 News. 10.40-12.20. Film: Lady Ice (Donald Sutherland, Jennifer O'Neill, Patrick Magee).

Southern

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25 Celebrity Concert: Englebert Humperdinck. 3.15-3.45 Life Begins At Forty. 5.15 Betty Boop. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Day By Day. 6.35-7.00 Scene Midweek. 10.40 Tenspeed and Brown Shoe. 12.25am Weather followed by Being A Christian.

Granada

As Thames except: 1.20pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.00 Live From Two. 2.50-3.45 Family. 5.15-5.45 Welcome Back, Kotter. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This Is Your Right 6.30-7.00 Crossroads.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: Starts 9.20am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20pm News. 1.25-1.30 Where The Jobs Are 2.45-3.15 Young Ramsay. 3.15-3.45In Loving Memory. 5.15-5.45 Here's Boomer. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life 10.35 News. 10.37 Quincy. 11.30 Camera. 12.00-12.05am Family Prayer.

Westward

As Thames except 12.27 pm-12.30 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays 1.20-1.30 News 2.45-3.45 Star Parade Boney M 5.15-5.45 University Challenge 6.00-6.35 Westward Diary 10.36 News. 10.39 Charlie's Angels. 12.20 am-12.25 Faith for Life.

HTV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News 2.00 Houseparty. 2.25-4.15 Film Court Jester (Danny Kaye, Glynis Johns, Basil Rathbone) 5.15 Dick Tracy. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 Slick and a String 10.33 News. 10.35-12.10 am Hollywood Academy Awards

HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam 4.15-4.20 Cartoon. 4.45-5.15 Siraeon y Byd. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.35-11.20 Heddiw a Ddilyn Ddoe. 11.20-11.50 World in Action.

Channel

As Thames except 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown 1.20-1.30 News 2.45-3.45 Star Parade 5.15-5.45 University Challenge 6.00-6.35 Channel Report 10.00-10.05 Vision USA 10.33 News 10.39-12.20 am Charlie's Angels.

Grampian

As Thames except. Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-3.45 Love Boat 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes 6.00-6.35 North Tonight 7.30-10.00 Film The Robe (Richard Burton, Jean Simmons, Victor Mature) 10.35 Sounds Gaelic 11.05 Scotsport special 12.05 am Barney Miller 12.35-12.40 News

Entertainments Guide

ENTERTAINMENTS

Most credit cards accepted for phone bookings or at the box office.
When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan area.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258 Last Week LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET Evgs 7.30. Sat 4.00 & 8.00 GISELLE Ton't: Ruanne, Jolley, Weiss.

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258 ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA April 7, 9, 10 at 7.30: Bartok Triple Bill. April 11 at 7.00: Julius Caesar. 104 balcony seats avail on day.

COVENT GARDEN 240 1066 "S" Gardencharge cc 836 6903. 65 amphiseats avail. for all perfs. from 10 a.m. on the day of perf.

THE ROYAL BALLET
Ton't at 7.30 Manon (Eagling replaces Silver). Tomor. at 7.30 Les Sylphides, Hamlet, Voices of Spring, Gloria. Sat. at 2.00 & 7.30 Les Sylphides, Hamlet, Voices of Spring, Rhapsody.

THE ROYAL OPERA
Fri. & Tues. at 7.30 Macbeth.

FRENCH INSTITUTE THEATRE. Queensberry Place, S.W.7. RENATA SCOTTO, Covent Garden's Lady Macbeth talks to Alan Sievewright with recordings. 6.30 Wed. 1 Apr. Tkts £1.50 (937 8390).

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE E.C.1. Tel. 01-837 1672/1673/3856. Credit Cards 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 01-278 0871.

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET
Ton't. & Tomor. at 7.30 Danses Concertantes, The Rakes Progress, Pineapple Poll. Fri. & Mon. at 7.30. Sat. at 2.30 & 7.30 Giselle. Tues. at 7.30 A Programme of New Ballets.

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA. Tickets from £2.50 to £12 still available for last 3 performances of "Die Frau ohne Schatten" (in English). 1 April 6 p.m. & 4 April 5.30 p.m. at Bristol Hippodrome (0272) 299444: 7 April 6 p.m. Southampton Gaumont (0703) 22772.3.

CONCERTS

MESSIAH. Antony Hopkins conducts Croydon's first "Messiah From Scratch" at Fairfield Halls on 19 June. Send now for Postal Booking Form to MFS. Fairfield Halls, Croydon.

THEATRES

ALBERY—OMEGA SHOW GUIDE ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST, EDUCATING RITA, TOMFOOLERY DUET FOR ONE, PAL JOEY CREDIT CARD SALES 379 6565 from 9 a.m. all major cards. No fees. GROUP bkgs. 836 3962. STUDENT STANDBY £2.90.

ALBERY S 836 3878 cc bkgs 379 6565. Grp. bkgs. 379 6061, 836 3962. Eves. 8. Thurs. mat. 3.00. Sat. 5 & 8.15. Extra Perf. Good Friday/Easter Mon. 8.00 "SIAN PHILLIPS 'A KNOCKOUT'". S. Times. DENIS LAWSON Most Promising New Actor DRAMA AWARD 1980.
MARVELLOUS MUSICAL Sunday Times.
PAL JOEY
"TO BE SEEN AT ALL COSTS" (F.T.). RODGERS & HART'S GREATEST HIT (D. Mail).
GLITTERINGLY SLEAZY, SHEER THEATRICAL RAZZLE DAZZLE, Std.

ADELPHI S CC 01-836 7611 Evgs. at 7.30. Sats. 4.0 & 7.45 Mats. Thursday at 3.0
TONY BRITTON
LIZ MARTIN, PETER BAYLISS and ANNA NEAGLE in
MY FAIR LADY
"MARVELLOUS SHOW"—Now! "SPECTACULAR"—D. Express. "STUNNING"—Time Out. Now Booking through to Oct. For Group Bookings Telephone 01-836 7358 or 01-379 6061

ALDWYCH S 836 6404 cc 379 6233 (10-6, Sats 10-4). Info 836 5332. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Today 2.0 & 7.30. Tomor 7.30.
FINAL PERFS
PASSION PLAY
by Peter Nichols
"Sheer magic" F. Times. "Superlative acting" S. Tel. With Eileen Atkins, Louise Jameson, Priscilla Morgan, Anton Rodgers, Billie Whitelaw and Benjamin Whitrow. Perf runs approx. 2½ hours. Prestel booking 22025. Group Sales 379 6061. Postal booking now open for THE KNIGHT OF THE BURNING PESTLE by Beaumont (previews from 30 April) and return season of NICHOLAS NICKLEBY (from 23 April). RSC also at The Warehouse, Piccadilly.

AMBASSADORS S cc 836 1171 Eves 8. Tue 3, Sat 5.30 & 8.30.
J. B. PRIESTLEY'S
Mystery Play
DANGEROUS CORNER
"One of the cleverest plays ever written" Daily Telegraph.

APOLLO. CC 01-437 2663 DIANE LANGTON, BEN CROSS I'M GETTING MY ACT TOGETHER AND TAKING IT ON THE ROAD Evgs 8.15, Fri & Sat 6.0 & 8.45.

ARTS 836 2132 Mons to Sats 8 p.m. £4, £3, £2. "Even if you're not au fait with G & S you'll soon be lapping up
TWISTED CUES
"I must recommend this good wholesome entertainment" Capital Radio. "A comic tour de force" D. Tel. "Show bursting with health & strength" The Times. "Whole thing is good fun" F.T. Season must end April 11.

COTTESLOE (NT's small auditorium —low price tkts): Tomor 7.30 preview. DON JUAN by Molière trans by John Fowles.

COMEDY THEATRE S cc 01-930 2578. Limited season until 23 May only. Evenings 7.15. Mat. Thurs. 2.00 (note early start). The National Theatre smash-hit production (from The Cottesloe) of
ARTHUR MILLER'S
THE CRUCIBLE
Directed by Bill Bryden
"Thrilling production of a magnificent play" F. Times.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061. Evgs. 8, Sat. 6 & 8.45. Extra Perfs Good Friday/Easter Mon., 8 p.m.
Martin Connor, David Delve Peter Reeves
deliver the songs and words of
TOM LEHRER
with huge polish and glee in
TOMFOOLERY
a satiric musical revue
"HILARIOUS, BARBED AND BUBBLY", Sunday Times.
"OUTRAGEOUS", Guardian.

DUCHESS cc 01-836 8243 Red. Price Preview Ton't 8.0 Opens Tomorrow at 7.0 sub evgs 8.0 Mat Wed 3.0 Sat 5.30 & 8.30.
FRANCIS MATTHEWS
GEORGE SEWELL
and LYNETTE DAVIES in
THE BUSINESS OF MURDER

DUKE OF YORKS S 836 5122. Credit Cards 379 6565/836 0837/839 4682 Group Bookings 836 3962, 379 6061 Evgs. 8.00. Sats. 5.0 & 8.30. Stalls & Circle from £2.90.
FRANCES DE LA TOUR
ACTRESS OF THE YEAR
Swet awards 80
BEST ACTRESS
New Standard Drama Awards 80
BEST PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTRESS
1980 DRAMA AWARDS
in TOM KEMPINSKI'S
DUET FOR ONE
BEST NEW PLAY
Drama Awards 1980
"THE AMAZING NEW PLAY" Daily Telegraph
"VERY STRONGLY RECOMMENDED" S. Times

GARRICK S & cc., Charing X Road, Mike Leigh's smash hit
GOOSE PIMPLES
"This is a terribly funny play, strongly recommended."—James Fenton, (Sunday Times). "Antony Sher gives not only one of the funniest performances in London but also one of the most touching."—J. Tinker (D. Mail). "First class theatre—its blistering entertainment which pours on the gags, the discomfort and the detail."—S. Grant (Time Out). Opens April 29. Box Office now open (01-836 4601). Seats £7.00, £5.00, £7.00. Group sales (01-379 6061).

DRURY LANE, Theatre Royal. Tel. 01-836 8108.
THE BEST LITTLE WHORE HOUSE IN TEXAS
"A SUCCESS? I SHOULD SAY SO". S. Times. "BAWDY . . . LOTS OF FUN . . . A BRIGHT, BRASH AMERICAN MUSICAL". Sun "EXHILARATING" Times. "VERY FUNNY INDEED . . . WILL RUN 150 YEARS". BBC Radio 4. "A MARVELLOUS MUSICAL". Now mag. Evgs. Mon. to Thur., 8.0. Fri./Sat. 5.30/8.30. Group Sales Box Office 379 6061.

GLOBE s cc 437 1592, 439 6770. SEASON ENDS MAY 16 Standing Room Tonight £1.50 & £2
ROWAN ATKINSON IN REVUE
Evenings 8.0. Sats. 6 & 8.45.

GREENWICH THEATRE S cc 858 7755. Evenings at 8.0. Mat. Sats. 2.30. CONSTANCE CUMMINGS "Bewitching" Times. ANGELA THORNE "Magnetic performance" Gdn. in The GOLDEN AGE. A new play by A. R. Gurney. "Considerable wit and finesse" S Tel. "Graceful" Obs. "Enjoyable play . . . a pleasing evening" S. Exp.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE 722 9301 MIKE LEIGH'S
GOOSE-PIMPLES
"DISGRACEFULLY FUNNY"—FT. Mon-Fri. 8 : Sat 4.30 and 8 : special mat Wed. 22 April, at 3. Ends Hampstead 25 April.
OPENS GARRICK 29 APRIL

HAYMARKET Theatre Royal. CC 01-930 9832. Last weeks, season must end April 18. Book now. evgs at 8.0. MAGGIE SMITH "a great tragi-comic Actress in full bloom", Financial Times, in
VIRGINIA
"Beautifully crafted, highly emotional experience." D. Telegraph. A new play by Edna O'Brien from the lives and writings of Virginia & Leonard Woolf, directed by Robin Phillips. Late-comers may not be admitted.

KINGS HEAD 226 1916. Dnr. 7. Show 8. UP IN THE 80's by Neville Phillips & Robb Stewart.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH cc 01-741 2311. Eves 7.30, Thur Mat 2.30, Sats 4.30 & 8.15. Joe Orton's ENTERTAINING MR SLOANE. With David Blake Kelly, Glyn Grinstead Dave King, Barbara Windsor. Dir: Kenneth Williams. ". . . a witty & pacey production . . ." Sun Times. April 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24 at 2.30 p.m. April 18, 20, 25 at 10.30 a.m. & 3.00 p.m. ROLF HARRIS with his all fun show for children. Under 16's half price! April 13 to 25 at 8.0 p.m. John Bardon as Max Miller in HERE'S A FUNNY THING by R. W. Shakespeare. Tkts: £1 to £3.50. "So funny" Times. "This excellent show" Gdn. LYRIC STUDIO: From 16 April PRIVATE DICK by Richard Maher & Roger Michell. Cast including Robert Powell.

LYRIC S cc 01-437 3686. Eves. 8.0 Mat. Wed. 3.0. Sat. 5.30, 8.30.
DINSDALE LANDEN
NICOLA PAGETT
in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S
TAKING STEPS
"A VERY FUNNY EVENING. ENJOYED MYSELF ENORMOUSLY" Evening News.
"THE BEST FARCE IN TOWN"—Punch

LYTTELTON (NT's proscenium stage): Friday 7.45 Preview. MEASURE FOR MEASURE by Shakespeare.

MAY FAIR THEATRE (near Green Park Undgd), 629 3036. Group Sales 379 6061. Mon-Fri 8.00. Sats 5.15 & 8.15. Mats Wednesday 2.30 THE FLYING KARAMAZOV BROTHERS Juggling and Cheap Theatrics.

NEW LONDON THEATRE c.c. Drury Lane, W.C.2. 01-405 0072
PREVIEWS FROM APRIL 22
NOW OPENING MAY 11
Credit & Tel, bookings from 9 a.m.
CATS
A MUSICAL by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER BASED ON OLD POSSUM'S BOOK OF PRACTICAL CATS BY T. S. ELIOT.
CATS
Additional Box Office (at Normal Theatre Prices), The Ticket Centre (by Wyndham Theatre), St. Martin's Court, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2. 01-240 2150.
BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN!
For Group Sales 01-405 0075 or 01-379 6061.

NATIONAL THEATRE S cc 928 2252. FOR REPERTOIRE SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER/LYTTELTON / COTTESLOE. Excellent cheap seats from 10 am day of perf all 3 theatres. Also Standby 45 mins before start. Car park. Restaurant 928 2033. Credit card bkgs. 928 5933. TOURS OF THE BUILDING daily (incl. backstage) £1.50. Info. 633 0880. NT also at COMEDY THEATRE.

OLD VIC 928 7616 cc 261 1821 'S' Ton't at 7.30 (Red price prevs). Opens Tomor at 7.00. Subsq Evgs at 7.30, Sat Mats at 2.00 The Centaur Company of Montreal in Fennario's BALCONVILLE.

OLIVIER (NT's open stage): Today 2.00 (low price mat) & 7.15 THE LIFE OF GALILEO by Bertolt Brecht trans by Howard Brenton. Tomor 6.00 MAN AND SUPERMAN.

PALACE. S cc 01-437 6834
"OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL EVENING!" Daily Mail.
Rodger's & Hammerstein's
OKLAHOMA!
"A MAGICAL MUSICAL EXPERIENCE" S. Times.
Evenings 7.30. Mats. Wed. Sat. 3.00. For group bookings 01-379 6061. Better selection of seats available Mon.-Thur.

PALLADIUM 01-437 7373 OPENING JUNE 11
Reduced price previews from May 29.
MICHAEL CRAWFORD
in the Gigantic Broadway Musical
BARNUM
ADVANCE SALES OPEN NOW! Use the Barnum hot lines 01-437 2055. 01-734 8961 for instant credit card reservations.

PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373. FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS April 14-19, 6 days only, including Good Fri. & Easter Sunday. Tues. 7.30, Wed. Thurs., Fri., 8.00, Sat. 6.15 & 9.0 Sun. 5.0 & 8.0
ELLA FITZGERALD
OSCAR PETERSON
Opens April 28th—3 weeks only. THE LIBERACE SHOW '81 Starring "MR SHOWMANSHIP".
LIBERACE
with supporting company. Box office now open. Credit cards accepted.

PICCADILLY S 437 4506 cc 379 6565. Group Bkgs. 836 3962/379 6061. Mon.-Fri. 8. Mat. Wed. 3. Sat. 6 & 8.40. Stalls from £2.90. Extra Perf Good Friday/Easter Mon 8.00 p.m.
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE CO.
in Willy Russell's hit comedy
EDUCATING RITA
COMEDY OF THE YEAR SWET AWARD 1980
"SPLENDID THEATRE EVENING QUITE ASTOUNDING"—Time Out.
"A MARVELLOUS PLAY, HILARIOUS . . . IT SENT ME OUT MOVED, EXCITED AND EXHILARATED". S. Tms.
RSC also at Aldwych/Warehouse.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE 930 8681. Credit Card bookings 930 0846.
PAUL DANIELS in
IT'S MAGIC
"TRIUMPH" Fin. Times. "A WINNER" Variety. "PURE MAGIC" Sun. Mirror. Mon.-Thurs. 8.0 Fri. & Sat. 6 & 8.45. Easter perfs.; Good Friday as normal. EXTRA MATS 20th & 21st APRIL at 3.0 & May 4th & 25th

PRINCE EDWARD. S cc Box Off. 437 6877. cc Hotline 439 8499. Grp Sales 379 6061. Eves 8.0 Mat. Thur. (Economy price) & Sat. 3.0.
EVITA
by Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber. Dir. by Harold Prince.

QUEENS S cc 01-734 1166 01-439 3849 01-439 4031.
PENELOPE KEITH
Peter JEFFREY Barbara FERRIS
MOVING
A new play by Stanley Price Directed by Robert Chetwyn Evenings 8.0. Mat. Wed. 3.0. Sat. 5.0 & 8.15. Grp sales 379 6061 "STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART . . . A FUNNY AND MOVING STORY OF SELLING A HOUSE" Daily Mail.

RAYMOND REVUEBAR cc 734 1593. At 7, 9, 11 p.m. Open Suns. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. New Acts! New Girls! New Thrills! 23rd sensational year! Fully air conditioned.

ROUNDHOUSE 267 2564. ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE COMPANY. THE DUCHESS OF MALFI with Helen Mirren, Mike Gwilym, Julian Curry, Peter Postlethwaite and Bob Hoskins. Reduced. Opens Ton't 7. Sub Evgs. 8. Sat. Mat 4.30. Until May 9. HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO DECLARE? a farce with Brian Cox, Dilys Hamlett, John Phillips & Derek Griffiths, Susan Littler. 13 May-6 June. WAITING FOR GODOT with Max Wall and Trevor Peacock, June 9-27. THE MISANTHROPE with Tom Courtenay, 1 July-1 August. Season Ticket available.

ROYAL COURT S cc 730 1745.
THE SEAGULL
by Chekhov. A new version by THOMAS KILROY. Prevs from Tomor at 8. Opens April 8 at 7.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE UPSTAIRS. 730 2554. GLASSHOUSES by Stephen Lowe. Prevs Ton't & Tomor 7.30. Opns Fri at 7. Sub Evgs 7.30.

SAVOY (836 8888) Special 2 week season April 7 (preview) April 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 16 at 7.30 April 15 & 18 at 2.30 & 7.30
JOHN REED in
A SONG TO SING O
A Gilbert and Sullivan entertainment.

SHAFTESBURY. cc Shaftesbury Ave., W.C.2. Box Office 836 6596 or 836 4255. Credit card bkgs. 839 7516, 839 4082, 839 4855 11.30-6.0, Sat. 9.30-1.30. Group Bookings Only. 01-839 3092.
TOM CONTI & GEMMA CRAVEN
THEY'RE PLAYING OUR SONG
"This show is a real stunner. Two of the most engaging performances" D. Mail. Prices: Stalls, Royal Circle £8.00, £6.50, £5.00. Circle £3.50, £2.50. O.A.P's £4.00 (Wed. Mats. only, best seats). Student standby £4.00. Evgs. 8.0. Mats. Wed. 3.0, Sats. 5.0 & 8.30.

ST. MARTIN'S. cc 836 1443. Evgs. 8. Tue. 2.45. Sats 5 & 8. Good Friday, 17 Apr., at 8 p.m.
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
29th YEAR

STRAND cc 01-836 2660, 01-836 4143. Evs. 8.0. Thurs. 3.0. Sats. 5.30 & 8.30.
NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH
Directed by Allan Davis Group sales box office 379 6061.

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON Royal Shakespeare Theatre (0789) 292271. Amex Cards (0789) 297129. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Booking now open for 1981 Season starting next week. HAMLET Mon-Sat 7.30. THE MERCHANT OF VENICE From 15 April. Special offers. Balcony seat/Pizza or lasagne £3.05. Stalls or Circle seat 3 Course Meal £13.50. Also Shakespeare stop-over. Call (0789) 297129.

TRICYCLE THEATRE, 269 Kilburn High Rd, NW6; 328 4626. Bag and Baggage presents "WHAT'S GOT INTO YOU?", new play by Elaine Morgan. "A scorching script"—Gdn. Mons to Sats 8.

VAUDEVILLE S cc 836 9988
EVENINGS 7.45
Mats. Wed. 2.45, Saturdays 4.0.
DONALD SINDEN
DINAH SHERIDAN
GWEN WATFORD
POLLY ADAMS in
PRESENT LAUGHTER
"The best of Noel Cowards' plays" F. Times, with "The incomparable Donald Sinden". S. Ex. "Hilarious & touching" S. Tel. "A total success" F. Times "A wonderful production of a genuinely hilarious play" LBC. "Terrific" S. Times. Grp. Sales Box Office 379 6061.

VICTORIA PALACE cc 01-828 4735/6. 01-834 1317. Evgs. 7.30. Wednesday & Saturday 2.45 Group Sales 01-379 6061.
ANNIE
"UNBEATABLE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT" Observer

WAREHOUSE Donmar Theatre. Earlham Street, Covent Garden. Box Office 836 6808. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Ton't Tomor 7.30 NAKED ROBOTS by Jonathan Gems. 'First rate cast' Gdn. 'A very funny play' New Stan. All seats £3.50. Students £2.00 in advance from Aldwych Box Office.

WINDMILL THEATRE. cc 01-437 6312. Twice nightly, Mon-Sat. 7 & 9 p.m. Sun 6 & 8 p.m. PAUL RAYMOND presents RIP OFF. Hotter than ever for 1981. The erotic experience of the modern era. 5th Great Year.

WYNDHAM'S. S 836 3028, cc 379 6565. Red. price. Gps 836 3962. Mon.-Fri 8.00. Sat 6 & 8.45. Extra Perfs Good Friday-Easter Mon 8.00
ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST
"Exactly the shot in the arm that the West End needed" S Times. "One of the funniest shows London has seen in a very long time" Punch. "Hilarious" D Tel.

YOUNG VIC 928 6363. Eves. 7.30. Ton't., Fri., Sat. PYGMALION. Thu. ROSENCRANTZ.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051. Air conditioning. Credit cards.
LONDON'S GREAT NIGHT OUT
From 8.00. Dining & Dancing
THE DRIFTERS
preceded at 9.30 by Super Revue "BUBBLY"
DANCING UNTIL 1 a.m.

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981. 6th month Joseph Losey's film of Mozart's DON GIOVANNI (A) perfs. 1.00 (not Sun), 4.10, 7.40.

ACADEMY 2. 437 5129. Andrei Tarkovsky's haunting new film STALKER (A). Progs. 1.50 (not Sun), 4.50, 8.00.

ACADEMY 3. 437 8819. Ira Wohl's Academy Award winning film BEST BOY (U). Progs. 5.00, 7.00, 9.00 daily.

CAMDEN PLAZA, Camden Town 485 2443 (opp Tube) ISABELLE HUPPERT in Maurice Pialat's LOULOU (X). 2.35, 4.40, 6.45, 9.00.

COLUMBIA. Shaftesbury Ave. (734 5414). Gene Wilder & Richard Pryor STIR CRAZY (AA). Cont. Progs. 2.00 (not Sun.), 4.10, 6.20, 8.30.

CURZON, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3737 BURT LANCASTER, SUSAN SARANDON in LOUIS MALLE'S ATLANTIC CITY (AA). Film at 2.00 (not Sun), 4.05, 6.20, 8.40 "I like this film intensely".

DOMINION Tott. Court Rd. (580 9562) MOONRAKER (A)/THE SPY WHO LOVED ME (A). Cont. Progs. Wks. 1.50, 6.20. Sun. 3.30, 5.45.

EMPIRE, Leicester Square. 437 1234. Seats bookable for the last evening performance only. Alexander Walker New Standard. Advance box office open from 11 am to 7 pm (not Suns). Credit card telephone bookings ring Teledata 200 0200. Albert Finney, Martin Sheen LOOPHOLE (A). Mon-Sat Sep. progs. 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. Sunday: 6.00, 8.30. STARTING APRIL " "TESS" (A). A Roman Polanski Film. ADVANCE BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN. Now Ritz Leicester Square. THE LONG GOOD FRIDAY (X). Sep. progs. daily. 12.30, 3.00, 5.45, 8.30.

GATE CINEMA. Nott. Hill. 221 0220 727 5750. RAGING BULL (X). 1.45, 4.05, 6.25, 8.50 Last day. Starts Tomorrow. LA CAGE AUX FOLLES II. THE BELLS ARE RINGING (U) & GRAND HOTEL (A) 11.15 pm.

GATE TWO CINEMA. 837 8402 1177. Russ Sq Tube. BLOOD OF HUSSAIN (AA). 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. THE YOUNG LIONS (AA) 11.00 p.m. Lic'd Bar.

GATE THREE CINEMA. 267 1201/485 2443 Camden Town Tube. THE STORY OF THE LAST CHRYSANTHEMUMS (A). 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30 Last day. Starts tomorrow. KAGEMUSHA BARRY LYNDON (A) 11.00 p.m. Lic'd. Bar.

GATE MAYFAIR 493 2031. MAYFAIR HOTEL, Stratton St., Green Park, Tb. KAGEMUSHA (A). 5.30, 8.30.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). THE SPECIAL EDITION: CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND (A). Sep. progs. 2.10, 5.15, 8.20. Seats Bookable. W'Ends. Last Eve. Prog.

MINEMA, 45 Knightsbridge. 235 4225/6 Judy Davis—winner of 2 British Academy Awards—Best actress, best newcomer for her performance in "MY BRILLIANT CAREER" (U). Daily: 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. Extra Perf. Fri., Sat. at 11.00 p.m.

ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738/2771). CHARIOTS OF FIRE (A). Sep. Progs. Dly. 2.26, 5.50, 8.55.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111). Jane Fonda, Lily Tomlin, Dolly Parton NINE TO FIVE (AA). Sep. Progs Drs. Open 1.15, 4.20, 7.30.

ODEON MARBLE ARCH, W2 (723 2011-2) Last day THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (U). Sep Progs. Drs Open Daily 2.30, 6.40.

ODEON, ST MARTIN'S LANE. INSIDE MOVES (AA). For info. 240 0071. Box Office 836 0691. Sep Progs. Wks. 1.30, 4.45, 8.00.

PRINCE CHARLES, Leic. Sq. 437 8181. British Premier Presentation CALIGULA (X) Sep Perfs Dly (inc Sun) 2.15, 5.30, 8.45. Late show Fri. & Sat. 11.55. Seats bkble. Lic'd bar

SCREEN ON THE HILL. 435 3366 Robert de Niro. RAGING BULL (X). Film showing at 1.45, 4.10, 6.40, 9.10. Ring 435 9787 after 2 p.m., for phone bookings.

PLAZA 1, 2, 3, 4, off Piccadilly Circus 437 1234. Advance booking facilities same as EMPIRE, Leicester Square.
**1. ORDINARY PEOPLE (AA). Sep. progs daily 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.40.
**2. COAL MINER'S DAUGHTER (A). Sep. progs. daily. 1.00 3.30, 6.00, 8.40.
*3. MONTY PYTHON'S LIFE OF BRIAN (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.35.
*4. AIRPLANE (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00.
**NO SMOKING AREA
*NO SMOKING

ART GALLERIES

ANTHONY d'OFFAY, 9 & 23 Dering St., W.1. David Bomberg/Rainer Fetting 01-629 1578.

BRITISH LIBRARY (in British Museum), George Eliot 31st May April. Tudor Map Making until 31. Dec. Wkdys. 10-5, Suns. 2.30-6. Adm. free.

BROWSE & DARBY, 19 Cork St. 734 7984. EXHIBITION OF FRENCH & BRITISH DRAWINGS.

COVENT GARDEN GALLERY, 20 Russell St., W.C.2. 01-836 1139. "Paris in 1882" Watercolours. April 2-25 daily. 10-5.30. Thurs. until 7 p.m. Sats. 10-12.30.

DOUWES FINE ART, 38 Duke St. St James's, SW1. "French 19th Century Paintings" March 27-April 17. 9.30-5.30.

DRIAN GALLERIES, 7 Porchester Place, W.2. 723 9473. Drawings by Marian C. Damerell. Till April 14. Daily 10-5. Sat. 10-1.

FISCHER FINE ART, 30 King St., St. James's, S.W.1. 839 3942. JACK SMITH—Recent Paintings. Until 16 April Mon.-Fri. 10-5.30. Sats. 10-12.30.

JPL FINE ARTS, 24 Davies St., London W1. 01-493 2630. Bonnard, Roussel, Vuillard, drawings, watercolours and pastels. Catalogues £2 plus post. March 18-May 14. Mon.-Fri. 10-6.

LEFEVRE GALLERY: 30 Bruton St., W.1. 01-493 1572/3. Twentieth Century Works on View. Mon-Fri. 10-5

MARLBOROUGH
6 Albemarle St. W1. Drawings & Watercolours by 13 British Artists Mon-Fri. 10-5.30, Sat 10-12.30

PARKIN GALLERY 11 Motcomb St., London, S.W.1. 01-235 8144. Chas Laborde Etchings, 1920-1932. 25th March-17th April.

Paintings by FRANCES WATT at Lauderdale House, Waterlow Park, Highgate, N.6. April 2-12, 1981. Weekdays 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sats. 1.30-5 p.m. Sunday 5th 12-5 p.m. Sunday 12th 12-5 p.m.

REDFERN GALLERY, DAVID OXTOBY, New Works. March 31st-April 29th. 20 Cork Street, London W.1. Mon.-Fri. 10.-5.30. Sats 10-12.30.

RICHARD GREEN GALLERY. 4 New Bond Street, W.1. Exhibition of 19th & Early 20th Century French Paintings. Daily 10.00-6.00. Sats. 10.00-12.30.

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THE COTTAGE GALLERY, 9 Hereford Rd., W.2. 01-221 4578. LEONARD BASKIN, graphics, drawings, sculptures. Tue.-Fri 10-6 Sat 11-3. Closing April 4.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, S. Ken. HILLES: 75 Years of British Furniture. Until 31 May. Adm 50p. DRAWING TECHNIQUE & PURPOSE. Until 26 April. Wkdys. 10-5.30, Suns, 2.30-5.30. Closed Fridays.

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PERSONAL COLUMNS
ALSO ON PAGE 25

BIRTHS

BIRTHDAYS

MARRIAGES

DEATHS

DUNBAR.—On 28th March, peacefully at home, Reverend Isaac Dunbar, M.B.E., of 9 King Alfred Place, Winchester. Funeral on April 1st at 3 p.m., at St. Lawrence's, Winchester. No flowers: donations to C.M.J. or Bible Society.

RICH.—On March 30, 1981, Louisa Anna Rich, J.P., of 59 Copers Cope Road, Beckenham, widow of Edmund Milton Rich, C.B.E., formerly Chief Education Officer L.C.C. Peacefully in her 99th year. Beloved mother of Jack and Robert and dear granny of Jonathan and Alexander. Service at Beckenham Crematorium, 3.00 p.m., Friday, April 3rd. Flowers may be sent to H. Copeland & Son, 9 Bromley Rd., Beckenham, or donations to the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society, Hampton Court.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE RED CROSS IS CARE IN ACTION

WHAT DO CHRISTIANS BELIEVE?

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,489

This puzzle, used at the Birmingham regional final of the Langs Supreme/Times National Crossword Championship, was solved within 30 minutes by 27 per cent of the finalists.

ACROSS

1 Heart of Man by Samuel Smiles initially. What depth! (5).
4 Poor souls come to a place of martyrdom (9).
9 Apollo's summer-house in the Vatican? (9).
10 Laments Cymru heard (5).
11 First of the inclinations of vagrants (6).
12 Greek article takes in "The Scotsman" (8).
14 Confused, since I'm not like Jowett (10).
16 Vehicle to move before take-off (4).
19 Old Simon's plunder (4).
20 Eccentricity of some shafts? (10).
22 "Wrist, brother", one need not say to him (8).
23 It'll be great on Judgment Day (6).
26 The semi-divine Lady of the Lake (5).
27 Indiscreet and saucy? About right (9).
28 Customs demand that ships obtain it (9).
29 One comparatively unused to work (5).

DOWN

1 Daily it came to the mariner's hello! (9).
2 Set up volunteer force in the Crimea (5).
3 She has the record: his members are bashful (8).
4 Without compare, he, in the kitchen (4).
5 But generally he outranks the major (10).
6 Woodcutter by a river in southern region (6).
7 How the heat can knock one out (9).
8 Builder of a lodge (5).
13 One thousand dollars in clothes I had on? It's irrelevant (10).
15 Kind of peach in a recent novel (9).
17 Policeman calls at the theatre (9).
18 River girl—one associated with us (8).
21 Webster spotted the lady, some might say? (6).
22 This water is drinkable, note (5).
24 One transaction that can't be bettered (5).
25 Artist's punishment of careless kittens (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,488

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED: NEW OR SECOND-HAND POSSUMS.

Possum. The electronic typewriter for the severely disabled. Can even be operated by mouth. Just one of the many aids needed to help our incurable patients lead lives as normal as possible. But to buy or even develop these aids, we need money. All donations including legacies gratefully received by: Air Commodore D. F. Rixson, OBE, DFC, AFC, Director of Appeals and Publicity.

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01-788 4511.

Patrons: HM The Queen and HM The Queen Mother

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SEASONAL SALES

GAS LOG/COAL FIRES from £75! Sale now on. Free survey. Ideal Fires, 378 Upper Richmond Rd. West E. Sheen, SW14, 876 3819.

ALL FOOL'S DAY.—At the new Phonemate showrooms we will demonstrate and sell a vast range of PO Certified Answerers by the best makers at opening sales prices for the whole of April. Discounts for multiple users with the largest selection of tapes and accessories in the U.K. Mail and phone orders with Securicor deliveries in the U.K. Phonemate, 289 Finchley Rd., London, N.W.3. 01-431 0266/0257 Tx 298681.

UK HOLIDAYS

NEW FOREST.—A full range of riding and pony trekking holidays in the beautiful New Forest available throughout 1981. Staying in a centrally heated country mansion and enjoy some of the finest riding in England. Novices to experienced riders. Marchwood Park, Marchwood, Hampshire.

SHORT LETS

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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NAIROBI, Mombasa, Seychelles, Mauritius, Egypt. ABC Travel & Tours 01-493 7415 (ABTA).

SKI.—Flights from H'throw.—Ski West 0373 864811. ABTA ATOL 1383B.

SKI, SKI, SKI.—We have vacancies on all dates in a variety of top resorts—with snow! Hotels and flats by air from Gatwick and Manchester or by car.—Ski West, 0373 864811. ABTA, ATOL 1383B.

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EUROPEAN FLIGHTS.—Visa Travel. 01-543 4327. Air Agts.

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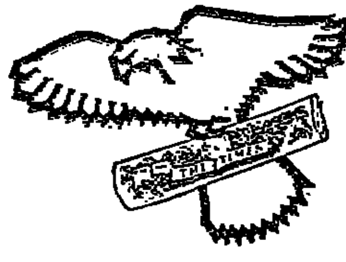

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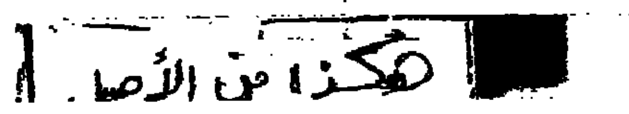
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